THE CULTIVATOR.

THIRD — To Improve the Soil and the Mind. — SERIES.

VOL. III. — ALBANY, JANUARY, 1855. — No. I.

PUBLISHED BY LUTHER TUCKER,
395 *BROADWAY, ALBANY, N. Y.*

LUTHER TUCKER AND JOHN J. THOMAS, EDITORS.

Terms—Single copy of Cultivator,..... 50 cents.
Twenty copies Cultivator and twenty copies Illustrated Annual Register, } $10.00.

AGENCY IN NEW-YORK—C. M. SAXTON, *Agricultural Book Publisher*, No. 152 Fulton-street, New-York, is Agent for THE CULTIVATOR and THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, and subscribers in that city who apply to him, can have their papers delivered regularly at their houses.

The New Year.

We are happy to be able to say that the friends of THE CULTIVATOR have, with a very general and gratifying unanimity, responded to our wishes, as expressed in the last number, in regard to procuring subscribers for the new volume. In places where there has been but one heretofore, large numbers are now coming in, and very many new Post Offices are daily being added to our list. We had hoped indeed for an increased circulation in 1855, but so far as the interest of our friends can indicate the result thus early, our former numbers will be *multiplied* rather than merely receive accessions. While we should be glad to have all those who would like a Weekly Journal, devoted to every Field and Family interest of the Farmer, remember the *Country Gentleman*, what we especially desire is to obtain the name of EVERYBODY ELSE, who cultivates the ground in large or little measure, or who has even a taste for rural subjects, for THE CULTIVATOR. We trust that this will, the present winter, be accomplished in a greater degree than ever before. We expect it, because of the general and increasing feeling that Agricultural Reading, of a sound and standard character, *ought* to receive a circulation commensurate with the benefits it confers; because the present time is peculiarly one to awaken both among farmers themselves, and through the whole community, a sense of their importance to its well-being, and to teach a lesson of the absolute and universal necessity of a better system of culture; because THE CULTIVATOR presents the *best teachings of the best practice;* because its correspondents contribute to its pages, from their every day's accessions of knowledge, in every part of our own Country, as well as from the laboratories of the Old World; because though standing on the out-posts of all that is *reliable*, it has never been led astray by what was novel; and, finally, because it *is within the reach of* ALL.

We have hinted that the Farmer holds a position, just now, of unusual importance to the community. This must be plain to any man who observes how rapidly our population is increasing, and how far our supplies of those provisions which we are accustomed to consider absolute necessaries, fall short of the demand; how prices of produce are continually rising, and though now and then fluctuating, never permanently declining, and how large a market we might have abroad had we any thing beyond our own demand. With a ready market for every product of his fields or stock which he can spare, and this at the very highest prices, the farmer is thus well able to take his turn in sneering at those who have in times past sneered at him. All the world is looking to him for renewal and continuance of its means of life, and offering and paying therefor no stinted or small returns. How little reason has he then to refuse to avail himself of all the agricultural information that can be obtained, on such a paltry excuse as "hard times,"—how much the more rather, to secure every possible source of knowledge, by which his crops may be increased, and his profits consequently augmented. Again we say that our home consumption imperatively demands increased supplies; that there is no danger of prices falling, and that farming is at this moment attracting more attention in the thinking part of the community than any other one pursuit. Shall the Farmer be the only one to neglect himself?

OUR TERMS have been received *every where*, so far as we learn, with unqualified approbation; and the extraordinary and unparalleled cheapness of *Twenty copies with Twenty Registers for* $10, will continue we hope, to call forth the interest with which it has thus far been met. OUR PREMIUMS should awaken general competition. Many a man who is now thinking he would make some endeavors in our behalf if there were better prospects of success, *might*, were he to try, raise from a single club, up to a number large enough to draw out the fifty dollars. Will not all do

their share? Whether *you* can get one friend, or ten or twenty, to subscribe, it will be an advance for your neighborhood, and such an one as we should be glad to chronicle.

There is one other suggestion we wish to make. The number of subscribers might be every where largely increased if each ONE would do what he can to assist the agent, and not all throw the whole burden on his shoulders. When an agent has made up a club, let each man take hold of the matter in his own, or some one locality, and pick up all the names he can, *now and through the year*, and hand them to the agent. In this way a better spirit would be aroused through the whole town, and no little benefit conferred upon the cause of agriculture.

We can only repeat what we have so often said, that we shall be most happy, not only to furnish every applicant with specimens of both our publications for himself, but to send them to any friends, whose addresses he may be kind enough to forward; and that any body who thinks there is room in his vicinity for a club for either the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN or CULTIVATOR, shall receive a copy of our *Annual Register* to assist him in making it up. It will show, aside from being a sample of the Register itself, the character of the illustrations and mechanical execution of our papers; and as to its own merits as a RURAL ANNUAL, we are daily receiving the highest commendation, not in words only, but in substantial orders.

And in conclusion, we cannot let the opportunity pass without tendering to our friends the compliments of the season—A HAPPY NEW-YEAR to all!

To our Agents and Friends.

As an inducement to agents to exert themselves to obtain subscriptions, aside from the consciousness of the benefit they will confer upon their neighbors and the community by bringing such works into more general circulation, we offer the

Following Premiums.

1. To the one who shall send us the largest amount of cash subscriptions to the CULTIVATOR and the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN for 1855, with the pay in advance, at the rate of Fifty Cents for each copy of the former, and One Dollar and Fifty Cents—(the lowest club price, where ten or more copies are taken)—for each subscriber to the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, previous to the 10th of April next, FIFTY DOLLARS in cash.

2. To the one sending us the next largest amount, FORTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

3. For the next largest,.... FORTY DOLLARS.
4. For the next largest,.... THIRTY-FIVE DOLL'S.
5. For the next largest,.... THIRTY DOLLARS.
6. For the next largest,.... TWENTY-FIVE DOLL'S.
7. For the next largest,.... TWENTY DOLLARS.
8. For the next largest,.... FIFTEEN DOLLARS.
9. For the next largest,.... TEN DOLLARS.
10. For the next largest,.... FIVE DOLLARS.

☞ Agents cannot be too particular in writing the names of their subscribers, and their post-offices in a legible manner. The state, also, should always be given.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

Terms of the Cultivator.

For a single copy, ...FIFTY CENTS.
Twenty copies, with ANNUAL REGISTER to each, $10,00

☞ The money in all cases to accompany the order, and subscriptions invariably to commence with the January number.

☞ Clubs need not necessarily take their papers from the same Post-Office, but it is preferred, where not inconvenient, that they should go to one office, and if possible to one address.

☞ After one club has been ordered, agents may continue to send subscribers on the same terms—i. e., Fifty Cents each, for both the CULTIVATOR and REGISTER. To prevent mistakes, it may be well to number the subscribers, as they are sent in, 1, 2, 3, &c.

☞ The price of the back vols. of THE CULTIVATOR, bound, is 75 cents—they will be sent *post-paid*, by mail, at $1. per vol.

Terms of the Country Gentleman.

FOR ONE YEAR.

Single copy,.....$2.00
Three copies,..... 5.00
Five copies,..... 8.00
Ten copies,.....15.00

FOR SIX MONTHS.

One copy,.....$1.00
Six copies,..... 5.00
Ten copies, ... 8.00

☞ Every subscriber who will procure a new subscriber, and remit $4.00 shall receive TWO copies of the ANNUAL REGISTER—that is, one for each.

☞ Payment must be made in advance—or fifty cents per year will in all cases be added to the above terms.

Price of the Rural Register.

Single copy, ... 25 cents.
One dozen copies,.....$2.00
One Hundred copies,.....15.00

Subscribers in British Provinces,

We have to pay the United States postage on all papers to the British Provinces; and this we cheerfully do, to all subscribers who pay the single copy price of $2 00 for the Country Gentleman, and Fifty Cents for The Cultivator; but on all clubs, the U. S. postage must be added. Hence our club terms to them for the latter will be—

20 copies, and the REGISTER to each, ... 11.00

And for the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN,

3 copies,..... $5.75
10 copies,..... 17.50

☞ Correspondents are particularly requested, when they favor us with any facts for publication, or any inquiries or suggestions intended for the editors, to write on separate sheets, or on such parts of their sheets, that all notes for the editors may be easily separated from the business parts of their letters.

☞ Great care should be taken to write the name and address of each subscriber distinctly, thus:

"*John Smith,....Lenox,....Berkshire Co.,....Mass.*"

☞ Specimen Numbers and Prospectuses will be sent to all who desire them.

☞ We are daily receiving the most flattering compliments in behalf of the Country Gentleman, in the letters from our subscribers in different parts of the country, a column of extracts from which we may give hereafter. In the mean time we cannot appeal to our friends too earnestly to aid us in extending the circulation of the Country Gentleman. We ask all our subscribers to do us the favor, to procure one additional subscriber. If they will do this, they will not only benefit the proprietor, but enable him to add very essentially to its value whereby all its readers will be made to share in the benefit conferred.

Foreign Correspondence.

BAVARIAN AGRICULTURE—MODE OF CURING HAY.

I spent a few days of August in the Bavarian highlands, among the Alps, lying a day's drive south from Munich, and just on the border of the Austrian Tyrol. In the numerous villages among these mountains, may be found thousands of people who quit the cities of Bavaria, and even of the northern kingdoms, to find relaxation in the country. Here are numerous beautiful lakes, (ponds we should call them,) often shut in by the mountains; the latter are more or less covered with the greenest wood or pasture, or lift up singularly sharp and jagged peaks to the height of 6 to 10,000 feet. There is no end to new and pleasant, often imposing, scenery. The peasantry were busily occupied in gathering their harvests. In the valleys I noticed many small fields of wheat, barley and oats; on the Alps, (Alp, means strictly not a mountain, but mountain grass-lands,) they were gathering the hay crop. The hay is cut here several times during the summer, as I saw it being mown in many fields where its height was not more than three or four inches. Owing to this frequent cutting and the abundant rains that fall in the highlands, the grass is very fine, thick-set, and of an intense color; the meadows are indeed very like English lawns. On account of the variability of the weather, a peculiar method of curing hay is practiced. One observes numerous little log barns fifteen by twenty feet square, and ten feet high, scattered over the lower Alps. (I have counted more than 100 of them from a single position, and they communicate a singular effect to the landscape, as their roofs, in common with those of all the peasants' buildings, are thickly overlaid with large stones.) Into these shanties the hay is thrown while half dry, and thoroughly trodden down. It shortly ferments, and the hay becomes dark brown in color, and forms a quite solid mass, which may be cut with a spade. Prof. Fraas, of the Munich University, says in his Principles of Agriculture, that this so-called "brown hay is as good for cattle as ordinary hay; it is in fact preferred by them, and appears to be more nourishing."

Some of the small grain fields promised a good crop. I found occasionally in the standing wheat, the yellow grain-worm which often makes such sad havoc in the United States. The soil is mostly good, though the amount of arable land is small. Many families keep a cow or two and a few goats, while here and there a farmer is found who owns much land and manages a considerable dairy. The females mostly care for the farm, &c. The men seem to be occupied in mechanical pursuits, (manufacture of wooden toys,) attend to getting out firewood, or amuse themselves in chamois hunting. The management of manure seems not to be very advantageous. Not only in the highlands but in the vicinity of Munich, one sees a manure heap often very near the dwelling, in a cubic pile several feet high, and surrounded with a ditch overflowing with the rich-brown essence of fertility, the whole exposed to wind and weather. The farm implements are very simple. Scythes are wide short blades with straight handles, but do their work admirably. Here they are sharpened with a whet-stone, and not as in north Germany with a hammer! Hand rakes are very good, but the great wooden hay-forks are not to be recommended. I have only seen improved implements in the exhibition; none on farms. I hope however to visit shortly some farms where the English management has been introduced.

FOOD AND HABITS OF THE PEOPLE.

The food and habits of living of a people afford, to a certain extent, an idea of the condition of agriculture and the arts among them. The bread consumed in Bavaria, is mostly made of rye, although among the better classes wheat bread is largely used.

The rye-bread is not sour, as is that made in north Germany, or at most only very slightly so. It is usually well made, and always contains a considerable quantity of caraway, fennel, coriander, and such like aromatic seeds. Wheat-bread is made of various qualities. The cheapest is apparently wet up with water. Another kind is called milk-bread; still another is called egg-bread. The weight and quality of the bread furnished by the bakers is constantly controlled by the city authorities. From time to time there appears in the city papers, a "Regulated scale of prices for flour and bread in Munich," a copy of which hangs at every baker's door. From one just issued I derive the following rates, having reduced the Bavarian weights and measures to English:

Wheat, per bushel,	$2.01 to $2.14
Rye, " "	1.60 to 1 66
Wheat bread, per lb.,	5½ cents.
Rye bread, "	3 cents.

These prices are higher than usual, though much lower than they were in the spring. A national article of food in Bavaria, is a sort of dough-nut, here called *nudel*, which is consumed in fabulous quantities on all festival occasions.

From the annexed prices of butcher's meat, it will be seen how the different kinds of flesh are prized. Fattened beef sells at present at 7 cts. per lb.—veal, 8 cts. per lb.—mutton, 5½ cts. per lb., and pork 10 cts. per lb The butcher is allowed to sell the good and inferior pieces together at one price. Veal is favorite food. It is usually quite young, and may be found in a great variety of forms on the eating-house tables. Sausages stand very high in public esteem.

I remember to have read that St. Boniface, the first christian missionary among the tribes of Germany, persuaded them "to abandon the barbarous practice of eating horse-flesh." But it seems that the old appetite has broken out again after having slept for ages, and that too, where the memory of St. Boniface is perpetuated in the most splendid manner. In Munich, Nuremberg, Vienna, and other cities, there are public establishments where horse-beef is sold. Some time since there appeared in the leading German journal, the "Allgemeine Zeitung," an able article advocating the use of this kind of flesh, asserting its good qualities, ridiculing the prejudices against it, and recommending it to the poor on account of its cheapness,

costing but half as much as the ordinary butcher's meat. The excellent flesh of the roe-deer and of the hare are cheaply served every day in the better eating-houses.

Among vegetables the potato is very largely consumed. It was introduced into Bavaria by Count Rumford, 60 or 70 years ago, and its use though at first opposed by extreme prejudice, became shortly universal. But turnips, carrots, scorzonera, not to mention cabbage in all its varieties, are found in great profusion in the markets. Fruits in their season are abundant, of fair quality, and cheap.

In the newer parts of the city, may be found numerous milk shops, where milk and all its preparations are sold, and there may be met students and others making a cheap and substantial supper of rye bread and milk, of which a very satisfactory quantity may be obtained for 4 kreuzers, or less than 3 cents. Excellent butter is brought into the city on market days, but it is always unsalted. Of cheese I am no judge, but one variety called *Limburger*, is too highly flavored to pass unnoticed. It is seen in the market in chalky-white rolls, here and there streaked with yellow and green, its look in every way unattractive, and it loads the air with an odor which strongly reminds one of a passage in Hamlet—"something is rotten in the state of Denmark." Bread with this cheese, is commonly a last dish at the German *table d'hote*.

But the Bavarian is less characterized by his meat than by his drink. So far as I have had opportunity to observe, the water is good, and it is not considered dangerous as a drink as is the case in some parts of Europe. Tea is little used, but every body drinks coffee, a cup or two of strong coffee and a roll of bread constitutes the morning meal. After dinner the better classes must have their coffee again; but it is beer which the Bavarian considers as the national blessing, and Munich furnishes this drink of the most esteemed quality, and in quantities truly enormous. "Brewing is the most flourishing trade in Bavaria; it employs more than 5,600 establishments and nearly 96 million gallons are made annually. It is also said to furnish two-thirds of the whole state revenue." In the evening nearly the whole male population of Munich assembles in the beer houses. An expert drinker often consumes 8 or 10 quarts of beer in a few hours, but it is drunk so slowly—enjoyment and not intoxication being the object—that the more startling evils of intemperance are hardly perceptible here.

Moderation is perhaps characteristic of the Bavarian. He is moderate in eating, and also (time taken into the account) in drinking, and certainly he is moderate in labor. The intensity of thought and action that belongs to the American character, is rarely manifested here. But Bavaria is waking up. As the ex-king Ludwig was unequalled as a patron of the fine arts, the present Sovereign promises to become illustrious in fostering science and industry. He has already gathered many men of note to his capital, and the University, strengthened by such names as Liebig, Knapp and Pfeufer, will continue to be one of the most numerously frequented institutions of Europe. S W. JOHNSON. *Munich, Sept.* 1854.

On the Sweet Potato.

A correspondent in the 17th number of the present vol. of the *Country Gentleman*, wishes to know something about the culture of the sweet potato, &c In the first place, he wishes to know the cheapest mode for keeping them for seed. If he only wishes to keep a few for seed for his own use, I think the cheapest plan is to get a box large enough to hold six or seven bushels of potatoes, besides chaff enough to cover the potatoes about a foot thick; sink the box about three or four feet in the ground so as to get below the frost. An elevated place should be chosen for this purpose; after the box is sunk, put in the potatoes and then the chaff; cover it over with some loose plank, fill up with dirt, and raise a mound over them to turn off water, and have besides a little covering of plank to aid in keeping off the water. But if he wishes to have potatoes to sell, and to eat all the winter too, a good plan is to dig a cellar in the ground something like an ice-house; have a good air tight floor even with the top of the ground, and a house above of course; have uprights reaching from the bottom of the cellar to the floor above—nail some plank on the uprights so as to form a sort of box to put the potatoes in, about 50 or 75 bushels in a box. These uprights should be put in a line on each side of the potato house, leaving a passage beeween for convenience in getting about through the house. It makes no difference about having anything on the ground to pour your potatoes on, for they keep just as well without. I find that the only difficulty in keeping potatoes, consists in keeping the house at the right temperature, which I think is between 45 and 60 degrees Farenheit, so the potatoes will neither freeze nor grow. The above house can be made accessible at all times by a trap door, and a small step ladder.

In the second place, whether it is better to plant the potatoes in the ground, or sprout them, and plant the sprouts? I think it decidedly better to sprout them, for the sprouts of one potato will go as far as half a dozen potatoes without sprouting.

Thirdly—How to make a bed? I lay off a bed about 14 feet long by 6½ wide, with somewhat of southern exposure; haul manure from the stable, and keep piling on my bed till I get it about 2 feet high, taking care to build the sides and ends of my bed up straight Next I make a frame 12 feet long by 4½ wide. I put this on my bed; then I get dirt where I can get it the handiest, and cover the manure about 3 or 4 inches deep. Then I wait till the heat rises and falls again to about 90 degrees Farenheit. Then I cut my potatoes in pieces from 1½ to 3 inches long—put about a bushel and a half to a bed of the above size, and cover the potatoes an inch deep with some light dirt from the forest; then water whenever they need it. In this way I have a good lot of plants at planting time.

Next, what sort of land is best for them? I think that land which will bring a good corn crop is the best for sweet potatoes. I never use manure for sweet potatoes unless I think the ground not rich enough for them, for I think it makes the vines too luxuriant;

such being the case, I dont think the potatoes grow as large as they would otherwise; when I think it necessary to use manure, I prefer stable manure to any I have yet tried. On about six acres of the above sort of land, I raised this year about 800 bushels of potatoes, which I consider a tolerable crop for the present dry season.

As to planting, I think it decidedly preferable to plant in ridges or rows, to planting in hills, for two or three reasons. First, the ridges are much more easily made, and are also much easier cultivated. Then I think the yield per acre much greater than when grown in hills. Besides in hills the labor of cultivating must all be done with the hand, while in ridges it can almost wholly be done with the plow.

Lastly, I plant my potatoes 2 feet or 2½ feet apart on the ridge. I find a great saving of plants in this way, and the hills being so far apart, the potatoes grow much larger: the yield I think is much greater than if the hills were closer. Two beds of the size I have described above, will plant an acre as above. RICH'D YOUNG. *Springdale, Ky., Nov.* 6, 1854.

Subsoil Plowing Again.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In the Nov. No. of the Cultivator, I notice an article signed "A Subscriber," Long Island, making inquiries in regard to subsoil plowing. Now, if he waits until all *scientific* agriculturists agree on the subject before he tries it for himself, he will not be likely to be benefited very soon from the result; and my advice to him would be to try it at once himself, and if he is afraid to *subsoil*, let him plow *deep* with a large plow, and, perhaps, he will get some hints from it that will be of more interest to him than the experiments of others. A few facts in regard to my own experience in deep plowing: My farm is quite level; soil light vegetable loam; subsoil pretty stiff clay. Four years ago I noticed where a large tree had blown out by root, bringing up a large quantity of the subsoil that, becoming mixed with the soil it invariably produced better crops and ripened earlier, and was not affected by drouth; and taking the hint, I began to deepen my furrows in plowing until I turned up soil to the depth of ten and twelve inches, and the result has been most apparent and satisfactory, increasing the yield very materially, while it is not so liable to be effected by neither excessive rains or drouth; of the latter I have had a good opportunity of testing the present season, and the result has been that on lands thus plowed I have the present fall, cut more clover seed to the acre than I ever cut before, while my neighbors who do not subsoil have cut none. But, I would not disguise the fact, that I have been much stimulated and assisted in my farming operations, by taking and *reading* a number of agricultural papers, carefully examining the *theories*, and putting such in practice as commended themselves to my judgement as promising the best results; and it is needless to say, that in some instances I have been disappointed, while in others, I have made some glorious discoveries. And I would say to your correspondent and all others, go thou and do likewise, make your own experiments and you will get facts for your pains, that will be of more value to you than all the experiments of others put together. J. H. MCGREW. *Piqua, Ohio.*

Quickset Hedges—No. 1.

EDS. CO. GENTLEMAN—As I write from experience, it will be necessary to be prolix in order to explain clearly and to enable the reader understandingly to proceed successfully with this work. The preparation of the ground under the most favorable circumstances, will be my first point; and secondly, the preparation of ground in unfavorable places—such as are wet or boggy.

Most writers recommend deep digging and heavy manuring, but I doubt much if they succeeded to their heart's content in making a good hedge by so doing. I never saw any that did, but have known much injury done by it. Land that is dry and healthy—unsheltered by trees or fences, is most favorable for the growth of Quicks or White Thorn—a clay bottom is most desirable, but I have never failed on any kind, whether sand, gravel or any other bottom, only on clay the thorn grows stronger. Dig one spit deep, three feet or more wide, clearing out all roots, old wood, and foul weeds. This latter is of essential consequence to the growth of the hedge. Then lay a line where you wish the hedge to grow. Let the line be a good length, say twelve or more rods long. With a hoe level the ground, removing all unevenness in the line, which will add much to the beauty of the work when finished; then beat the ground firmly and evenly with the back of a spade or shovel, mostly on the back side of the line, so that when the trench is dug for the plants there may be a firm bank to plant against. It will give the workman less trouble in making the trench. This done, strain the line again, and make sure all is of a proper level. Then commence the trench for the plants, which should be somewhat of this shape, *V*, when finished, the upright bank being next the line, against which the plants are placed at regular distances and about four inches deep. For a front or ornamental hedge, the plants may be four inches apart--farm hedge or line hedges six or eight inches; for plashed eight, ten or twelve inches is close enough. The plants being placed in the trench, a little earth should be thrown in on the roots and trodden down; then fill the trench nearly to the top, and give a firm and even treading on the trench side, and fill up even with the back bank. If any plant should stand irregularly, straighten it up with the finger and thumb of both hands, pressing the earth firmly around it to keep it in its place.

In wet or boggy ground, it will be necessary to raise a bank, unless the water can be drained off in some way, which is most advisable. I find the less elevation this plant has, the better it will grow—that is, avoid ditching as much as possible next the hedge. Our climate is too dry in summer to require it, and the frost in winter is apt to expose the roots by removing the earth in our frequent thaws.

TIME.—In wet land, the spring is most advisable, but I have succeeded well in the fall by planting deeper and placing a fence board on the surface of the ground on each side of the row close to the plant; this prevents the plant being thrown out.

In dry land, fall planting is preferable, and the earlier done the better, after the leaf falls; but any time in winter when the ground is free of frost, they may be safely planted—it may be well to say that could the ground, where the hedge is wished, be cropped, either with corn, beans or potatoes the season previous to planting the hedge, it may be useful in eradicating weeds and getting the ground in good tilth for it. I have generally found the ground to be quite rich enough without manure, but if it should not be, it will be far better to put it in the ground with some previous crop than after; still I am opposed to forcing the growth by such means, for I think it is apt to bring on premature decay, and perhaps from this cause the remarks in a recent number of your paper may be true. This I suggest, not assert to be the case. W. M. B. *Skaneateles, N. Y.*

Pardee on the Strawberry.

A complete Manual on the Cultivation of the Strawberry, with a description of the best varieties. By R. G. PARDEE. New-York: C. M. Saxton.

A notice of this interesting and valuable little book, has been accidentally deferred a few weeks since its publication. It is a neat 12mo. volume of 144 pages, and contains besides a treatise on the Strawberry, directions for the culture of the Raspberry, Blackberry, Gooseberry, Currant and Grape. The author has been long known to the horticultural public, for his enthusiastic fondness for strawberry culture; and his book, which is written in a clear and sprightly style, is the result of thorough experience. As his experiments have been confined, however, to amateur culture or to limited grounds, we are not furnished with so full details of market cultivation as would be desirable. With this addition, it would become a work of universal acceptance. We think that good and distinct portraits of the fruit would be rather better than the *sections* given, and convey a more distinct impression of the characteristic appearance of the varieties.

As a specimen of the author's condensed and practical manner, we copy the following paragraph on the facility and cheapness of strawberry culture:

During many seasons we have had on trial in our garden from twenty to sixty varieties at a time, and although some were comparatively unproductive, yet the average cost of producing them for years has been less than fifty cents per bushel; not including the cost of picking or expense of plants, which were taken from our own garden. Others can, and have done, the same. We can refer to amateurs, market-men, farmers, and nurserymen in Western New York, who have raised them at even a smaller cost, both on a large and a small scale. On a plot of ground fifty by sixty feet, we have repeatedly gathered over fifteen bushels in a season, under all the disadvantage of many varieties. With a good selection of kinds, it is certain that one hundred and fifty bushels can easily be produced on an acre, and we have abundant testimony that on a larger plot, at the rate of two hundred bushels per acre has been gathered. It is almost as easy to raise extra-large, fine fruit, as it is small indifferent berries; and it is a decided object. Fruit of high flavor, measuring from three to four inches in circumference, will command fifty cents per quart in New York or any other good market, as readily as small fruit will ten cents; while the labor of picking such large fruit is very small, and the product much larger. The demand for extraordinary fruit is every where increasing.

Of the many varieties on our own grounds one season, more than twenty different kinds, without special effort, produced specimens four inches in circumference, while the larger were six.

Those who wish to obtain in a portable form and in a clear and condensed manner, the results of the latest and best experience on the culture of this delicious fruit, should by all means purchase and read this book.

A Profitable Acre in Western New-York.

EDS. CO. GENTLEMAN—During a recent visit at Naples, Ontario County, we learned some facts respecting an acre belonging to Mr. MCKAY which may be interesting to the readers of the Country Gentleman. They show conclusively that large farms are not necessary to derive large profits. Said acre was planted with Isabella grape vines in 1849. The fall of 1852 these vines bore quite abundantly, but no particular account we think was kept of the quantity. Last season (1853,) about eight hundred dollars worth of grapes were gathered and sold from them. It should be stated that the grapes sell readily in market at more than an average of *one shilling* or twelve and a half cents per pound. The stems are picked and carefully packed in boxes for market. This year according to the statement of the gardener in Mr. McKay's absence, the vines produced ten tons of grapes. This, at six cents a pound, would amount to twelve hundred dollars. They could have been sold at eight cents picked at the grapery. We do not know the expenses of cultivation and of getting the grapes to market, and therefore cannot give an estimate of the clear profit. But suppose the grapes are sold at the grapery for eight cents per pound, and allow that the gardener estimated the quantity by two tons too much, still the grapes would bring $1,280. The estimate of the gardener was as follows: All the grapes were gathered. More than two thirds were sent to market and weighed. The remainder were unweighed and guessed, as he said, at a low estimate.

Suppose it costs four hundred dollars to take care of the vinery, and pick the grapes for market, and we think this a very high estimate, for one man will not be required to take care of the vines half of the time except during the picking season when extra hands are wanted;) and still there would be a clear profit of over eight hundred dollars. This vinery is situated near the base of a hill in a valley sheltered from winds, in a sandy gravely soil, highly manured. Between the rows of grapes potatoes and other vegetables were grown, enough to in part pay the expenses of cultivation. We were told that all the grapes could have been sold in Canada at 18 cents per pound, and when we were at Naples about two weeks ago, Mr. McKay was at Montreal selling grapes. Yours truly, S. B. BUCKLEY. *West Dresden, N. Y., Nov. 6, 1854.*

Pride breakfasted with plenty, dined with poverty, and supped with infamy.

Struggling with Limited Means.

We cannot help feeling a sympathy with young people just setting out in life, and struggling under the difficulties of small means to support a newly rising family, and perhaps occasionally with attacks of sickness. It often happens that the first few years of married life are attended with more anxieties and discouragements from these causes, than any other period. Sometimes much valuable experience is acquired at this juncture, but not always without severe cost; and it may be therefore of some utility when suggestions can be afforded by those who have weathered and passed this point.

We have just received a letter from a young correspondent in one of the states of New England, asking advice on this very subject. He says—"I am a young lawyer, making about $400 per year by my profession, and with almost no hope of increase, as the market is overstocked, and I am sensible that I am neither a Kent, Emmet, nor a Story. Having a wife and child to support, I am anxious to try some other business, that will enable me to do so better than at present. Would farming be better?

"I possess a *thorough* theoretical knowledge of agriculture, having at college made chemistry and botany my particular studies, and have for years been a constant reader of the best agricultural books and periodicals, the *Cultivator* included. I have had considerable experience in gardening, and have been very successful. There my qualifications end. I have never worked a whole day in the field, and am too feeble in body to do much labor of any kind.

"About five minutes walk from my house and from the town of B———, there is a piece of land containing 16 acres of good clayey loam, sloping toward the south about 100 feet down to the sea shore, where marine weeds are abundant for manure. It is well fenced, but the buildings are worth nothing. It has been badly cultivated without any kind of manuring. It rents for $50 a year, and may be bought for $1000, on easy terms, say $100 cash, and the rest in 8 years. My whole available funds are about $200—would it be prudent then to buy it? I can hire a good man for $80 a year and board. Produce brings fair prices, and is readily bought up—barley at $1 per bushel, oats 60 cents, potatoes 60 cents, Swede turnips about 40 cents, and hay $15 a ton this year, and about $9 in other years. Indian corn we rarely grow, being liable to injury by early frosts. Will you give me your advice? It would not be necessary to relinquish the law altogether—I could probably make $200 by it, and still work my land. H. P. K."

In giving advice in such a case as this, it should be borne in mind, that much more depends on THE MAN than on the nature of *the business*, provided the latter is such as to give an opportunity for the exercise of the energies. We have known more than one instance where two men with similar opportunities and means, have succeeded very differently at the same business, one failing, and the other accumulating wealth. Hence we cannot advise in a general way, the purchase of a farm by running almost wholly in debt for it. A few would easily work out, but to most the debt would be likely to prove a long continued and oppressive load It must depend on the management, tact, and *economy in every sense of the word*, possessed by the purchaser in question.

If we were to give *one rule* in business for beginners, which we should place at the head of all others, it would be, "*Feel your way.*" Do not undertake any thing untried, on a large scale, no matter how promising the results may appear. The most uniformly successful men in business, have nearly always pursued this course; and we could on the other hand, name many instances where large and bad failures have resulted from a different practice.

Our correspondent should not give up his practice of law immediately. He must depend on that *mainly*, for two or three years at least, until he gets under way in farming If he could rent the land for two years, with the privilege of purchasing, it would undoubtedly be best. But this, probably, cannot be accomplished. He must therefore take into consideration the probable cost, in addition to the land, of animals to stock it, (for even the smallest farm should have some animals) the expense of a horse or of a yoke of oxen, of the various necessary implements to work it to best advantage, and of proper buildings. A man must be also hired to do most of the labor in the present instance. All these will be found to consume more than the proceeds of the land for the first year or two. If after all these calculations, he can be sure of meeting his interest and other payments, allowing for disasters and contingencies, a purchase may be made.

Great judgment and skill should be exercised in selecting *first*, those improvements which promise the greatest return with the least outlay. On this branch of the subject, a large book might be written. We can only say here, make a list of *proposed* improvements—examine from all the *practical* knowledge that can be collected, and to some extent from limited experiment on the spot, the probable cost on the one hand, and the probable advantages on the other, and then select *first*, those showing the largest percentage of profits. These may be some kinds of manuring—or some cheap and efficient underdraining—or deep plowing of the tillage land—or heavy seeding of the grass land—or the cultivation of certain crops—or the introduction of certain animals—remembering the rule in all cases, "*feel your way.*"

Sixteen acres constitute but a small farm—but such a farm skilfully managed, may after a while be made to produce a considerable amount. Ordinary field crops alone will not be likely even to produce one half of the $400 now made by law practice; but these with fruit raising, rearing fine animals, producing marketable garden crops, and perhaps the more saleable young fruit trees, may with *skilful hands*, be made to increase the product to an almost indefinite extent.

We have heard wealthy farmers assert that not over *two per cent* on the cost of their farms and the capital to stock them, could be fairly relied on as an average for all seasons. But this estimate is made for ordinary superficial farming. We have found by experience, that a better mode of practice, economically pursued, would, without any special trouble, double the products, and triple or quadruple the nett profits. For instance, where a ton and a half of grass are commonly cut,

four tons have been produced simply by heavy seeding and plastering; where thirty bushels of corn have been the common crop, seventy bushels have resulted from well applied manure, selected seed, and good cultivation; and where only 200 bushels of carrots or ruta bagas were ordinarily yielded, six to eight hundred have been obtained by performing every part of the operation promptiy, in the best manner, and on a deep and rich soil. We have known a gain of more than one hundred dollars a year on a single farm from a selection of the most efficient tools, and proper labor-saving machines. We could also name some farmers, who instead of reaping an average nett profit of only two per cent, make at least twenty per cent; and some of the best farmers of Western New-York, (and doubtless elsewhere,) *clear* from seven to nine hundred dollars from every hundred acres—and in one case, about six thousand dollars have been made in a single season from a five hundred acre farm. The owners and managers of these farms were active, intelligent, and energetic men, of long experience, always in the midst of every important operation, and, we need scarcely add, constant readers of the best agricultural publications of the day.

Preservation of the Sweet Potato.

EDITORS COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.—I notice in your No. of Oct. 26th, some inquiries for the best method of preserving sweet potatoes through the winter for seed, to which I respond, though probably too late for avail this season. My eye fell on the notice but to day. A large branch of our farming is the raising and preserving of sweet potatoes for Cincinnati market. We commence digging them here, the first and second weeks in Oct., or about the time of our first frosts. Hard freezing is apt to injure them as the ends of the potatoes are near or quite at the surface. In digging and handling them we are careful not to bruise them more than is possible to prevent, as it is an injury. They should be dried before putting away, either in the sun the day they are dug, previous to gathering in, or after by spreading on a floor. When the surfaces are dried, we put them in boxes *not more* than two feet deep (other dimensions to suit convenience) till a foot in depth or thereabout, then fill by pouring in dry sand, dry enough to *dust* or *run* well. It is better to be screened as it better finds its way among the potatoes, we then finish filling the box with potatoes to the top, and again pour in sand till all the space is filled and the potatoes covered. They should be kept in a dry room, the less liable to sudden changes of temperature the better, and in an atmosphere ranging from 50° to 60° Fah., but if allowed to sink to 40° or rise to 70° it is no harm if not long at a time. Of the two the high temperature is to be preferred. We put up from five hundred bushels upward each year, and have found by experience that this is the surest method. We cord our boxes one above the other by placing 1½ inch strips between, for them to rest on, and to give space for the circulation of air which is indispensable. With these precautions we can safely calculate that from 95 to 99 per cent will come out in perfect order for market. I have forgotten to mention that the sooner they are put up after digging, the better, if sufficiently dried, as long exposure to the atmosphere is detrimental. Hoping this may be of benefit to your inquiring correspondent as well as others, I willingly tender them the small stock of knowledge I have on the subject, and will, if desired, give a full detail of our mode of propagation and culture, at some future time. Yours for improvement, M. M. MURRAY. *Fruit Hills, Ohio, Nov.* 20, 1854.

On Making and Saving Manure.

[The following communication was mislaid, or it would have received an earlier insertion. Our correspondent will please accept our thanks for it, and the assurance that both ourselves and readers will be glad to hear frequently from him.—EDS.]

MESSRS. EDITORS—Manure being one of the most important subjects to the farmer, especially away from large towns or cities, a few brief hints on collecting it may be useful.

To save manure by your woodland.—Clear a space in a suitable place in your woodland, and of sufficient size; early in the fall gather all the *leaves* so far as is practicable, which have fallen; lay them a foot or so thick, on the surface of the cleared space; now put a layer of *mould, turf, muck,* the *surface soil of your woodland*—in fact anything or substance which will hold the gases evolved by the decaying leaves—as may be most convenient, over these leaves, and so on, until you have a pile as large as you need. In due time the leaves will have become decomposed, and are in a fit state to apply to your land. Quick lime or unleached ashes, will hasten the process. The earth, muck or turf, answers a double purpose; prevents the leaves from being scattered by the wind, and holds the volatile gases of the leaves.

By Weeds.—Weeds are not altogether useless; for they can be very economically made into manure, thus giving back to the land, what they extracted from the same, as well as that drawn from the atmosphere. All weeds should be cut up by the roots, or drawn up, roots "and all," before they seed, unless you wish to *propagate* them. Gather them together after cutting, and compost them as directed for *leaves.*

By old or worn-out pastures.—If you have a worn-out pasture, a good way of making manure from it, is to plow it out once—then with a scraper, or anything which will answer your purpose, gather it up in a heap, whence it can be taken to the barn-yard, and spread over the same, to retain the fluid portions of manure, composted with barn-yard manure, carcases of dead animals, and other putrescent manure, or composted as directed for the two foregoing substances.

By straw.—With straw, cattle and horses should be kept thoroughly littered, while in their stalls; the yards should also be littered to a good depth with it; and it will be a great advantage if it is first cut. (I will speak more fully as to the uses of straw as manure under the following head.)

By the stables and barn-yard.—The stables of a farm should have proper stercorary or stercoraries adjoining them, with cisterns underneath for retaining the urine of the stock, which should be conducted to them by gutters. These stercoraries may be 3 feet deep, or rather the *pit* of the stercoraries should be from 6 to 10 feet wide, and of an indefinite length. It should have a roof, and be walled or fenced at the ends and *exposed* side, (the other side being joined to the stable,) leaving an opening of sufficient size for conveniently removing the manure. A pump, or pumps should be

fixed in suitable places over the cisterns, for pumping the urine on the manure in the stercorary as wanted. Into this stercorary the manure of the stock should daily be thrown, and there composted with turf or muck, 2 or 3 parts turf or muck, to one of the manure, unless you have a large quantity, or a prospect of obtaining a large quantity of pure dung, when it would be for your advantage to use less turf or muck, say 1 or 2 parts turf or muck to 1 of dung. (When I say "a large quantity," I mean *in proportion to the size of the farm.*) Once a week, or oftener, pump your urine on this heap of manure, to *enrich* it, and prevent *fire fanging*. Your *barn-yards* should have a layer of turf or muck, to the depth of 6 to 12 inches, and over this a layer of straw—here you must be governed by the quantity on hand, which will make the depth more or less. The straw by being trodden over by the cattle, and receiving their droppings will be both enriched, and rendered less *stiff*, making it easier to plow into the land. The muck or turf, will receive and *retain* such of the fluid portions of manure as may pass, or be washed by rains, through the straw. A few weeks before using, the straw and muck should be gathered up from the yards, and deposited in a part of your stercorary, left unoccupied for the purpose; twice or three times a week, pump the urine on the straw and muck, which will cause it to ferment, and render it valuable as manure.

Speaking of the value of straw, especially when steeped in urine, the following from ARTHUR YOUNG proves its efficacy; he says:

"The question relative to long or rotten dung appeared particularly interesting. I therefore compared straw, cut into chaff, and applied to earths in different circumstances for barley; and the earth without any manure, producing grain as 9. The straw steeped three hours in fresh urine, produced as 50; steeped fifteen hours, produced as 63; steeped three days, produced 126; and applied dry, produced 39. In weight of straw and grain, the plain earth giving 48; that of three hours, 120; that of fifteen hours 130; that of three days, 300; and dry, 100."

Those who hesitate about believing the above, will please note, it is not *theory* but *practice*. A good plan of *applying* (permit me to stray from my subject a few lines,) *strawy* and *fine* manure, might be to plow in the *strawy* manure to a good depth, 10 or 12 inches, and the *fine* manure plow in with a *gang plow*, 3 or 4 inches. All *long* manure should be buried deeply with the plow, as it is not available to plants till decomposition takes place, and when buried deep the roots of the plant find it when it is in a state for giving full effect. Whereas, when applied near the surface, the roots of the plants extend out of its reach, before it is of any use to them. So if you wish *immediate* effect from your straw, or long manure, it should be excited to fermentation, as above recommended. But to my *subject:*

Another source of manure is the *hog-pen*. The pens and yards should be kept covered with turf or muck—the excrement should be often removed to a part of the yard *under cover*, and a few grains of corn thrown over it, when you will find the hogs to be "faithful servants," as well as *faithful to their stomachs.*

By the privy.—A most powerful manure is *night soil*, and one near at hand. A most excellent manner of collecting the same, and preparing it so as to be inoffensive to the smell, is given in the June No. of the Cultivator of the year 1854, page 176. I would further suggest renovating it as stated, and compositing it with your *fowl dung*, (which by the by should be carefully saved,) adding —if your *smell says so*, a little more charcoal dust, with a little *plaster*. Here we have a manure nearly equal in effect to *guano*, and at a far cheaper rate.

Having already extended my communication to a greater length than I intended, I will conclude by calling attention to another source of manure—*the waste of the house and kitchen*. Every farmer should have, at a convenient distance from the house, a pit or yard surrounded with a stone wall, and roofed,—where should be an abundance of peat, turf, charcoal-dust, or any other fertilizing absorbent. To this pit or yard, and on the absorbent used, should by gutters of wood or stone, (as your ideas of economy may direct; though stone is the cheapest *in the end*, and often in the first instance,) be conducted all the *waste of the house—soap suds, dish water*, &c.—every thing which can be advantageously used as manure, and can be so conducted.

Now, will any farmer of *common sense*, say he cannot *improve his farm*, that he "*cannot afford it*," when such a *mine of wealth*, in the shape of manure is at hand? It is astonishing "how every little helps," especially when used as manure. Many farmers allow their barn-yard manure to lie and rot, exposed to the leaching of rains, and the evaporating power of the sun, losing two-thirds of its virtue, while by building proper sheds for it, they will pay their cost—and enrich the land at the same time—in one season! And as for the other substances above mentioned, they are as a general thing, *entirely neglected!!* At the same time the farmer is crying out against his farm, his seed, his manure, (*when he does not make use of one tenth part of it!*) his men, his tools, his horses, his every thing, *when he is the only person or thing to blame!!*

Farmers, remember your manure is your *gold*, and your farm your *mint*. The more gold you furnish your mint, the more coin (*i. e.* crops) you withdraw therefrom. T. K.

TRANSMUTATION.—Clover is a biennial plant, and is (in this section) invariably succeeded by timothy —timothy generally by red top, and red top by June grass. If the transmutation doctrine is erroneous in this case, why will not this rotation follow where no clover is sown? Can you inform me? C. B. *Guilford.*

Does our correspondent mean to say that clover turns to timothy and the timothy to June grass? The Bible informs us that each seed shall produce its own kind, and we have never known an authenticated instance in nature, which contradicted this assertion.

A Place for Every Tool.

"In vain the search:
Nor hoe, nor spade, in its own place is found."
EDWARDS.

Every body, who is any body, likes to see *system* and *order* displayed in the various operations of the farm; and even the most careless and negligent, admire, and *approve* the practice of him who has an appropriate place for every tool, and who strenuously insists on *keeping them there*. "A place for every thing, and every thing in its place," is a maxim, coeval with the art of printing, for aught I know;—and we find, many times, that those who often insist on having this precept carried into practice, come the farthest short of keeping it themselves. Many farmers fail, greatly, in keeping this precept; and in time lost, patience tested, and the many hindrances which result therefrom, they are often obliged to suffer a mortifying penalty.

Ask Mr. A. where he keeps his hand saw, or his augers, or pick, crow-bar &c. "Well, let me think—where did I use them last! Look in the wood house. If they are not there, look in the carriage house; and if they are not to be found there, let us see if they are not some where about the barn, or in the stable." Mr. B. says, I usually keep my tools, either at the house, or barn, or in the path that leads from one to the other. When I have done with a tool, it is thrown in the path that leads from the house to the barn; and it generally gets carried to one place or the other. There being generally, such a destitution of *order*, in reference to keeping tools in their appropriate place, it is deemed a matter of no impropriety to speak of the *order* and arrangement, in the disposition of the various tools of the work shop, and farm, which is practised by a young farmer, not a hundred miles distant from the residence of the writer.

Ask him, for instance, where his hand saw is; or his drawing knife; or his augers; or any other tool you may need. And the unhesitating reply is, in such a part of the shop, hanging on such a pin, or nail, or standing, or lying in such a corner, or, on such a shelf. There hang the augers, each one in its appropriate place; and on all the premises, they are allowed *no other place*. There hang a half dozen saws; and if one of them is taken down, but for a *moment's* work, its first and last resting place is, *on its own peg*. There is a drawer with an apartment for screws, one for rivets of a half dozen different sizes, one for washers, for bolts of all sizes, one for nails of different sizes and so on. In one corner is a shallow box-shelf, where are a lot of carriage bolts, and other bolts, and where every thing in the bolt line is kept, in case of a break down. There hang a number of extra plow-handles; in case one should be broken, in seed-time, a half day need not be spent, in going several miles, to have it repaired. Extra pieces of harness, pieces of worn-out or broken tools, hang on nails, on one side of the shop, where, at a glance of the eye, any thing that is wanted to repair a break down, can be had, without tumbling over a whole box full, to find something, which, perhaps, may not be there. There hang a variety of useful little articles, instead of being tumbled into a box, where they can never be found, when needed. There hang the chains, (not on the fence any where on the plantation) in that corner. There the beetle and wedges are kept. Are there any extra plow points about the shop?—you will find them, up stairs, in such a place, and *no where else*. Every one who assists about the barn and stables understand that this shovel, when not in use, must stand in that corner. The manure fork must be kept *here*. That fork and that shovel, in the feeding-room must always stand in this end of the box, where feed is mixed. This fork must be left on the mow, and when not in use, the end of the handle must be rested on the ladder, so that one always knows, even in the dark, where to find the fork, to throw down fodder. That harness, and that collar belong on that horse; and they must always be hung *on that hook*. When the halters are taken off the horses, each halter is hung on its appropriate hook. A score of other little things, which are generally thrown here and there, by the majority of people, have *their own place*, and will always be found there, when not in use.

Where there are a large number of workmen, and boys to use the tools, it is just as easy to keep them in one place, and *far more* important, as where there is but one, or two individuals to use them. Let it be understood by each one, that *every tool must be returned to its proper place, immediately*. When an augur, or chisel is needed ten or twelve rods from the shop, let it be returned, without delay. It will require but one minute to travel ten rods; and if one *is* in haste, at such a time, one or two minutes will make no material difference in the work of a day; if it *were* like to do so, who could not work one or two minutes *later* at night to redeem those lost moments? And, besides, when tools are laid down, here and there, thinking to return them, when it is more convenient, they are often forgotten, and scores of minutes are lost in search for them, even when one is in the greatest haste. There is always a great satisfaction, when one needs a certain tool, in having the assurance, that the hand can be laid *directly on it*, even in the dark.

Those farmers who succeed best in their operations, are noted for their strict adherence to *system* and *order;* and those who set at naught all order and system, are always in a hurry—never know where to find any thing—never have a place for any thing, except somewhere on the farm, and they never accomplish but little in comparison to what they might, were *system* and *order* their watchword. S. EDWARDS TODD. *Lake Ridge, Tompkins Co., N. Y.*

CHINESE PIGS.—In looking over the *Country Gentleman* of this week, I see an inquiry made for pure Chinese Pigs. I have a few pigs, the produce of a pair sent direct from China by Dr. Green, surgeon of the Japanese Exploring Expedition, last winter. I would be happy to supply gentlemen with a few pairs at a moderate price. BENJ. HAINES. *Elizabeth town, N. J., Nov.* 17, 1854.

Judging of the Flavor of Fruit.

"Who shall decide when doctors disagree" on the flavor of certain fruits?

There is a great deal of contention and dispute in the pomological world, on the merits of certain new sorts, and the reading public is often very much at a loss to know how to decide in cases thus made difficult Hence, at least in part, the differences of opinion in relation to the quality of such new famous varieties as the Concord and Diana grapes, the Onondaga and Monarch pears, &c. We have had occasion often to observe the great difference of estimate, resulting from external circumstances. In one case, an individual attends one of our fairs, after traveling a long journey where no fruit is to be had, and by which his appetite is sharpened to a high degree. A third rate fruit is handed to him, and hunger gives it a delicious flavor. Another individual on the *fruit committee*, examines every thing delicious, and becoming thoroughly sated, the same fruit is pronounced by *him* utterly detestable. Both are perhaps editors or reporters, and their readers are of course very much puzzled, when they see such contradictory statements.

We observe a statement in a late number of one of our best papers, that the Newtown pippin is the only variety of apple that *improves* in flavor by crossing the Atlantic. An American in passing through Marseilles, observed some Newtown pippins for sale, which had found their way from New-York through Liverpool. He paid fifteen cents each for them, and on tasting them, found them *more delicious* than any he had ever met with in America—he was a good judge of fruit. Can any one doubt that a sharpened appetite imparted to them much of this fine flavor?

The men attached to Long's Expedition to the Rocky Mountains, found a wild grape which they regarded as far superior to the finest Hamburghs and Sweetwaters. A plant was procured and placed in the hands of a skillful cultivator at Philadelphia. When it bore, every one who tasted it pronounced it utterly unworthy of cultivation. So much for the difference between the starvation of the western wilds and the luxuries of the east. In another instance, a botanical friend found a superb wild grape as he was traversing the Alleghany mountains, where he had not tasted any fruit for days. When it fruited in a garden in western New-York, it was found no better than the wild austere frost grape.

The reason, then, that doctors disagree in their estimates of new and rare fruits, is owing to the difference in circumstances in which they perform their examinations. And the way to prevent such disagreements, is a very simple one. Always provide specimens of standard sorts, to taste side by side, before undertaking to pronounce with precision on the relative quality of those that are new and untried. This will prevent many blunders, if always followed.

A box 24 inches by 16 inches square, and 28 inches deep, will contain a barrel, (5 bushels.)

The Schuyler Gage and New Plums.

Mr. Tucker—As I promised to furnish you with the history and description of the new varieties of plums exhibited by me at the State Fair held at New-York, I commence first with the

Madison Plum.—This fine seedling, so highly recommended by the Fruit Congress which met at Philadelphia I think in 1849, was raised by that celebrated plum grower, the late Isaac Denniston of Albany. It came into bearing in 1848, and on the 16th Oct., 1849, I saw and ate its fruit, in company with Mr. Sanford Howard, who then remarked to me that it was a plum which, if grown for market, would pay enormously, being so late and beautiful a variety. I accordingly procured scions the following spring—very fortunately too,—as the succeeding summer the tree from an unknown cause, died. Its size rather above medium; color, rich yellow with carmine cheek; bloom whitish; freestone; flavor, very rich, sugary, sprightly and fine. Season, October. A fine grower.

Schuyler Gage.—This is one of the most beautiful and desirable of plums, on account of its lateness—being eaten by me the past season when the snow covered the ground. It never suffers from the attacks of the curculio, like most other varieties, which fact immeasurably enhances its value with me, being always sure of a crop. It was raised by Gen. Schuyler, of Revolutionary memory, from the Green Gage, and was esteemed by him so great an acquisition that he never disseminated it; but gave to his rival fruit-grower, Isaac Denniston, buds of the Green Gage as it. Mr. Denniston always believed it the Green Gage, saying he obtained buds of Gen. Schuyler himself, which, when fruited, was none other than the Green Gage. So choice was this variety with the General, that none but his intimate friends were at his table served with them, and when solicited by them for scions, some other variety was substituted Mr. Denniston frequently alluded to the strife which prevailed in the days of Gen. S., to obtain and exclusively possess varieties of choice fruit, and the petty tricks resorted to when applied to for them—he having been for years duped by them.

After the death of Gen. S., the late John Bryan purchased the grounds, and finding an aged tree of this variety, grafted from it. Soon after the death of Mr. Bryan, the grounds came into the possession of Mr. E. C. M'Intosh, to whom we are indebted for making known this long heard of variety. In the fall of 1847 or 1848, Mr. M'Intosh brought to Mr. Howard and myself, some plums to identify. Being unknown, we visited Mr. Denniston to have them named, but without avail. At the request of Mr. M'Intosh we soon after visited his grounds to learn more of this variety, and there learned from a daughter of the late John Bryan, its name and history. It was raised about 1800, (as stated above,) from the Green Gage. During the lifetime of her father, he never disseminated it, nor would he permit it to be done. We thus see why this choice fruit never was made known while possessed by two such peculiar men—remaining in their possession full half a century; and why all pomologists have erred in calling it a synonym of the Green Gage. The fruit is medium size, long oval; skin golden yellow, dotted and washed with carmine; bloom white; stem 1¼ inches long. Flesh yellowish, quite juicy, high-flavored, luscious, sprightly, fine. Stone free. Season from 15th Oct. to 15th Nov. An erect grower.

The Wax Plum is a new seedling raised by me and shown at the State Fair in New-York. It is a quite late variety, ripening during the month of Oct., when light-colored plums are gone. Its parents I believe to have been Bleecker's Yellow and Denniston's Superb, favoring more in its outline and stem, the Bleecker than the Superb, and in the growth and productiveness of the tree. Fruit large size, slightly oval; stem quite

2 inches long and hairy; color the richest yellow, mostly covered with carmine; bloom lilac; flesh greenish yellow, juicy, firm, saccharine, with a sprightly, very pleasant flavor. Free stone. Season October.

HOWARD'S FAVORITE, is another seedling raised by me, and named after SANFORD HOWARD, from the preference shown by him for it, whenever he visited my grounds. What either of its parents were, I am unable to tell. It is a profuse bearer, yielding me this *dry* season, 2½ barrels of fruit. It possesses a peculiarity which greatly enhances its value for my bleak grounds, that of resisting the gales of summer. Indeed so great is its tenacity, that it is impossible to knock them off without breaking the fruit spurs. It is a continuous ripener for some six weeks. A very handsome grower, forming a fine rounded head. Leaves deep green, very large and crumply. Quite ornamental. Fruit large sized, jug-shaped; stem 1¼ inches long, inserted in a rim like the egg plum; color rich yellow, dotted and shaded with carmine; bloom lilac; skin thick; flesh rather coarse, but very sugary, rich and delicious, clinging somewhat to the stone. Season Sept.

HENRY CLAY—another seedling raised by me, and bore fruit first in 1852. It was raised from pits of Howard's Favorite. Of large size, considerably more so than its parent, being broader and heavier. Color bright yellow on sunny side, with carmine cheek. Stem quite long, near 2 inches in length, slightly sunken; bloom whitish; skin tough; flesh yellow, rich, sugary, delicious. A noble plum, both in size, quality and beauty. Half cling and half free, like its great namesake. It was named by Dr. WARDER of Cincinnati—deeming it worthy of so honorable a name, and so appropriate to his character. Season 1st Sept.

The five preceding are not excelled for productiveness. For beauty I know of none that can compare with them. For quality they are not excelled by any, and for lateness, where can five varieties be found that will furnish fruit for a period of 2½ months?

LADY PLUM is another seedling raised from the Mirabile. It is quite a pretty fruit, esteemed highly for preserving—this being its chief quality. It is a rampant grower—leaves small and pointed. An abundant bearer. Fruit quite small, oval; stem short and stout; color greenish yellow, spotted with brown; stone free and small; flavor acid. Season last of Sept. ELISHA DORR. *Albany, Dec*, 1854.

Sheds for Cattle.

Where farmers have been obliged to stack out fodder, and feed it to cattle without any shelter, I would recommend the following: Enclose a yard of suitable size for the amount of stock to be kept, (as small as possible recollect,) by the side of your stacks, with a temporary shed made by running a tight board fence for the back, and some old boards or rails *shingled* with straw for the roof, which may be supported in front by putting down in front a good stout rail once in 10 or 12 feet. Let this stand on the north side of your yard, and if possible get water enclosed in it, so the cattle can remain in all winter. Keep the yard well littered, and I will warrant you just 5 times the quantity of manure in the spring to draw out and put where you want it, than you could have had to let your cattle *run* at stacks, dropping their manure promiscuously, and probably just where you *don't* want it—saying nothing about their more comfortable quarters. Such a shed can be built in a short time—my man and I put one up 60 ft. long and 12 wide in one day. W. J. PETTEE. *Salisbury, Conn.*

Ashes for Old Orchards.

Will you or some correspondent of the Country Gentleman, who may have had practical experience in the application of the best portion of the waste ashes and sand from a foundery as a top dressing for crops, and more especially to an orchard—state its properties on an old orchard requiring renovation? Truly yours, B. J. WHITNEY. *Worcester, Mass.*

We have always found a moderate application of ashes, or still better its successive application as each is dissolved and carried into the ground, very beneficial to apple trees, increasing their growth and the size of the fruit. And this we believe is the experience of others. On poor or moderately fertile land, a free use of yard manure must not be forgotten as a main reliance. There may be portions of the country where from peculiarity of soil, ashes may be of little or no use, which can be only learned by making the trial.

Shipping Apples to Europe.

It is familiar to at least a portion of our readers that the most successful exporter of apples from this country, R. L. PELL, of Ulster Co., N. Y., owes a considerable portion of his success to careful picking and careful handling. The fruit is picked, one apple at a time, from the tree—when transferred from the hand-basket to the larger one, only *two* are taken at a time by hand. These baskets are then drawn, not even on a spring wagon, but on a *sled* to the building for storing, so as to secure them from jolting. When packed in barrels, they are again taken two at a time by hand. They are drawn on a *sled* to the North River, and *lifted* by two men on board the steamboat to be taken to New-York and shipped. When lowered on ship-board, they are caught, one at a time, on *men's shoulders*, and *carried* carefully to the coolest part of the ship At London, they are carried by two men on a *hand-barrow* with the same care that we carry a costly looking-glass. With these precautions they arrive in London in better order than market apples usually reach our own cities, and having been carefully selected, sell for ten dollars per barrel, and sometimes as high as twenty.

Few of our farmers, it is true, send their apples across the Atlantic; but would it not repay them well to exercise the same care in handling them for home market or domestic use? Why are so many compelled to pick over their apples several times in the winter, and remove the decayed ones to save the rest from their infection? Plainly, because they are hammered and bruised so carelessly during gathering, and during the process of tumbling them from basket to barrel, and barrel to basket. So much for a passing suggestion.

The American Agriculturist furnishes in a late number, some facts in relation to shipping apples. The deck of the vessel is found the best place to deposit them; under deck they do not keep well—and to secure them from the dashing of the salt water, the barrel should be tight. Three or four quarter inch holes are to be bored into the head for the circulation of air

and escape of moisture. Sail vessels usually charge 30 to 50 cents per barrel for freight, and steamers four times as much. Commission and charges in England are about $1,00 per barrel.

The same paper states that next to the Newtown Pippin, the following varieties succeed best for shipping,—which may be borne in mind by those planting orchards with this view:—Baldwin, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Tompkins County King, Lady apple, and Red Canada. Rhode Island Greening, Roxbury Russet, and Swaar, have not succeeded so well.

The Apple Worm.

Editors of the Country Gentleman—I am glad that the subject of wormy apples is attracting attention, and am pleased to see a communication on it in a recent number of your paper, as the views of your correspondent accord with a theory of my own, formed some years ago. The subject is one of great importance. In the northern parts of New England, where the apple does not grow to the same perfection that it does in more genial latitudes, apples are only occasionally wormy. But in the western part of New-York, and particularly in the county of Chautauque, on the south shore of lake Erie, where it grows to large size and of the best flavor, its enemy the apple worm, or the insect which produces it, seems to be correspondingly vigorous and destructive, so that sometimes out of the produce of a whole tree of apples that for size and flavor would astonish a Vermonter, hardly one apple can be found not perforated by the worm.

Some years ago I observed, that of the apples furnished me by a farmer on whom I was dependent for my supply, not one was wormy, and I expressed to him my gratification and surprise. He assured me he never had wormy apples, and that others need not here, if they would manure their trees as he did. He said that his practice was, in the spring of the year, to carry out his straw and refuse hay, and spread it under his apple trees and about his orchard, and then turn on his cattle, let them eat what they would, and tread the rest into the ground, where it decomposed and made manure. I saw at once the importance of the fact, but concluded my friend mistaken in his deduction. I thought it much more probable that the mischief was done by some insect that burrowed in the ground under the trees in the winter, and that the weight of the ox treading up the ground at the season when it freezes at night and thaws out days, was a means peculiarly fitted to destroy it, and leave the apples free from its ravages. This fact supports the views of your correspondent. The insect is not propagated from the apples that come to maturity, and are gathered and carried away, but from such as fall prematurely and decompose on the ground under the trees. It must find an abiding place somewhere until the next year when it is to begin its ravages. And where so probably as in the ground under the tree, nearest the point where its future operations are to commence?

I have never been able to test my theory by experiment, but I have no doubt of its correctness, and commend it to the consideration and trial of all farmers, whose orchards are visited by the pest.

Hogs running in the orchard in the summer and fall to eat up the immature fruit as it falls, would protect no doubt an orchard to some extent, but not entirely, as probably some portion of the apples infected, fall so early that they would escape the notice of swine. I would also suggest whether the curculio and other destructive insects may not be destroyed in the same way. E. Ward. *Silver Creek, N. Y. Nov.* 15, 1854.

Work for the Winter.

When spring comes every good farmer will have a plot or field or garden, or orchard where he can *profitably* apply all the manure he can save or make during the winter. Every shovelful of manure judiciously applied will increase the amount of his harvest. Now is the time to think of this, and to make arrangements and preparations accordingly.

Let all manures be put under cover or sheltered as much as possible. Save carefully all the droppings of hen roosts and poultry as this makes a near approach to guano. By the use of methods more than once named in this paper deodorize the contents of privies, &c., and convert into rich poudrette. Let those near the seashore collect sea-weed and if they use it on their crops of potatoes report the result. Let those who live near saw-mills draw home and put under cover loads of sawdust. This may be used, to good advantage, in absorbing the urine of horses and cattle, and retaining the fertilizing ammonia which they contain. Sawdust and dry meadow muck well saturated with urine will be a fertilizer almost equal to guano. It may be mixed, when spread on the crops, with plaster. Lastly, at present, save all the bones you can and make your own superphosphate. Your next harvest will pay you for all your trouble.

Killing Canada Thistles by Deep Fall Plowing.

Messrs. Editors—More than twenty years ago, I undertook to plow a field of ten acres in the fall, for the purpose of killing Canada thistles. It was a light gravelly soil, having an easterly descent of about five degrees. I plowed one half of it in the fall as deep as could well be done without subsoiling. The other half I plowed in the spring, and then cross-plowed the whole field and planted it to corn. On the half plowed in the fall, the thistles were very few the next season. But for the effect of fall plowing on the corn. During the growth of the corn, there was but little perceptible difference in the two parts of the field. But when the corn was picked, the ears of corn were found to be more numerous and much better filled out on the part of the field plowed in the fall. I now unhesitatingly advise farmers to plow their light lands in the fall for the double purpose of killing thistles and of enriching the soil. All gravelly soils as well as clay, contain more or less of vegetable food in a latent and unprepared state for the use of the vegetable. The effect of freezing and thawing, during the fall, winter and spring, together with the action of atmospheric agents, prepares these latent elements for the use of the plant Unless the land is hilly and steep, the washing will not do as much hurt as the fall plowing will good. J. L. Edgerton. *Georgia, Vt., Nov.* 15, 1854.

The Food of Plants.

MESSRS. EDITORS.—In a late number of your paper, I read an article signed "W.," which touched upon a problem I have never yet seen entirely solved. The problem is this:—How is it that farms, treated as farms generally are, and undergoing the drain that they do of both organic and inorganic materials, are enabled to maintain so long, so fair a degree of fertility? Several reasons have been given, but no one singly, nor all combined, can fully account for the strange fact that our fathers and grandfathers have raised and sold off of their farms, thousands of bushels of grain, and tons of butter, pork and beef; and after having applied the merest trifle of foreign manure, and often exhibiting the greatest carelessness in husbanding even their own resources, are able to transmit those farms to us with harvests nigh as golden, and meadows covered with nigh as rich a verdure.

Your correspondent makes a still stronger statement, for he says that, judging from census returns, "the soil of the state is not running out but improving a little." And even this statement is confirmed by the experimental testimony of some of the best farmers throughout our land. But a few days ago I was conversing with a very intelligent and observing friend who said as follows—"Thirty years ago when I commenced on this place of something over a hundred acres, I could scarcely keep a dozen cows although a fair proportion of land was always kept down in grass. Being confident that its resources were not exhausted, I set to work to see what could be done. I endeavored to exercise great care in all respects, according to approved methods, and had the satisfaction of seeing my corn cribs gradually fill up, and each succeeding summer to notice more and more 'hay over.' I began to increase my stock at the rate of a cow every year, and to fat an increase of pork, until now I can keep near thirty cows, and yet raise more grain than I did when I commenced. Almost the only fertilizer I have purchased was plaster, and if called upon to give the secret of it all, I should say it is on account of the miserly care with which in every respect I have husbanded the manure which the farm itself produced."

But, ye men of science, this is the question—the inorganic or mineral part of that farm's products for the last five years, where were they when that man began? Do you reply that they were all locked up in the soil, and needed only the key of careful culture to unlock the treasure? If so, I would enquire again—if the amount of mineral matter in the soil cannot of itself be made to increase, how came it to happen that the agriculturist whom we have just noticed, by increasing the amount of farm products, and thus making a greater draft at the mineral, did not discover his land gradually running down? The rationale of "W." in regard to spring water holding mineral matters in suspension can explain but little here, for his land is not springy, but mostly good sound loam, and where a spring does burst out it is conveyed immediately off in a good ditch. Now, if called upon to express an opinion in explanation of this point, I should say, first, that by growing long tap-rooted plants mineral matters are brought up from the subsoil. 2d. By the gradual mouldering away in the soil of rocks and stones, caused by the influence of the sun, air and frost, and the abrasions of the plow and harrow, new mineral elements are made ready for plants. 3d. During severe drouths when the ground to some distance below the surface is dry, by the laws of capillary attraction moisture is drawn from a great depth and mineral solutions along with it. For this reason, observing men say that the year after heavy drouths is always productive. I believe that in the air, in a gaseous form, exist all matters that are found in the soil, mostly organic, but a proportion of inorganic likewise, and that in the great laboratory which nature has established in the earth and sky, there are processes which as yet have eluded scientific research. Phosphoric acid gas has in small portions been found in the atmosphere. Now why may not this descend into the bosom of the earth, or be drawn in by the mouth of the plant, and in some (to us) unknown way unite directly with lime and thus form the phosphate of lime so essential to almost all forms of growth? And thus with every form of mineral matter required. It may be carried off to fill the hungry mouths of the ten thousands in our cities, but a kind Providence, acting through nature, which is ever bountiful, notwithstanding the improvidence of her children, may ordain it to return to the valley it left, and prepare it to resume its eternal round of errands of mercy. JAMES O. MILLER JR. *Montgomery, Orange County.*

PLANTING ASPARAGUS.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Will you please to inform a constant reader of your most valuable paper, which is the best time and best soil for asparagus. H. W. K. *Middletown, N. Y.*

The plants should be set as early in the spring as the work can be performed. Set in the autumn, they are liable to be injured or destroyed by winter. The *seeds* will grow best if sown in the fall as soon as ripe. The best *soil* is one made rich by a copious use af manure, well and deeply mixed with the earth. If sufficiently drained or not liable to be water-soaked, either a heavy or light soil will answer. The ground can be scarcely made too rich, the size, sweetness and tenderness depending greatly on this quality. That particular sort of asparagus known as *Giant* asparagus is nothing more than the common sort on a highly enriched soil, and under good cultivation. The large size of the shoots depends greatly on *not crowding* the plants together—hence it is better to plant in drills, and not in beds.

MARYLAND STATE AG. SOCIETY.—At the recent meeting of this Society, C. B. CALVERT, Esq., who we believe has been its President from its organization, having positively declined a re-election, J. T. EARLE, Esq., of Queen Anne's County, was elected President for the coming year. J. H. McHenry, Baltimore, is the Cor. Sec'y, Samuel Sands, Rec. Sec'y, and J. H. Luckett, Treas.

That Cow Cherry.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Cherry of New Scotland is doubtless a very good cow, but St. Lawrence is a very great county, and can beat the state in dairies, and we may add in cows too, Cherry not excepted.

The pretensions of this cow have been so often paraded in your columns, that it is proposed to "divide honors" with her.

Let us see, she calved Sept. 28th, and commencing thereafter, Oct. 2d, in the full flow of her milk, and very likely fed on slop, roots or extra feed besides grass, she yielded in 28 days 46¼ lbs. of butter or 1 lb. 10 4-7 oz. of butter per day.

At the fair of St. Lawrence county, prizes were offered in three classes for the six best dairy cows owned by any one person, and of the *eighteen* successful cows, Cherry would have found her match in either of them.

Due proofs, as required by law under oath, were submitted and are in my possession, of the products of these cows. Their *feed was grass only*. The milk of each cow was measured, and weighed at each milking, and the product of each cow was separately churned and weighed where used in butter.

The pastures of this county suffered severely the past season from drouth, and the feed was much better from the first of October than from the first day of July to October. Our grounds were parched and red, and yielded scarce any feed during the summer months and September. Also will be borne in mind the time of calving.

We take the cows of Edward M. Shepard of Norfolk, being his *entire* herd.

No. 1. Ayrshire, calved in May—yielded 1st week in July 16, lbs. butter per day—2 lbs. 4 4-7 oz.
No. 2. Ayrshire, calved June 20th—yielded 1st week in July, 14 lbs.—2 lbs. per day.
No. 3. Ayrshire, calved early in May—yielded 1st week in July, 15 lbs.—2 lbs. 2 2-7 oz. per day.
No. 4. Ayrshire, and Durham, calved May 3d—yielded 1st week in July, 12 lbs.—1 lb. 11 3-7 oz. per day.
No. 5. Ayrshire, and D., *Farrow*—not tested 1st week in July; tested 2d *week in Sept.*—yielded 12 lbs. 2 oz. butter—1 lb. 11 5-7 oz. per day.
No. 6. Durham, calved April 20th—not tested in July; tested 2d *week in Sept.*—yielded 12 lbs. 4 oz.—1 lb. 12 oz. per day.
Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4 gave the second week in September, 11 lbs. 6 oz.; 13 lbs; 12 lbs. and 10 lbs. 10 oz. of butter respectively, from pastures sun-baked as red as "Cherry" herself.

The twelve remaining cows, which drew premiums were owned, six by Mr. Moses Tuttle of Canton, and six by his brother Mr. L. Tuttle, either of whom would be pleased to compare with "CHERRY," but as their cows were selected from their large dairies, it is perhaps better to take those cows not holding such chances.

Here then we give you the product of six cows, belonging to one man, and taking his whole yard, either of which, (and one *farrow*) yielded far larger products than this famous cow, CHERRY.

We can give through this Society, *single* cows with which Cherry cannot compare, but the above is better, for the attention of dairymen is here turned to the breed of the cows used, and is not a mere casual or accidental result as *may* be the case with "CHERRY."

Very truly yours, H. G. FOOTE,
Sec'y St. Law. Ag. Society.

Ogdensburgh, Nov. 27, 1854.

Mediterranean Wheat.

MR. TUCKER—I noticed an article in your valuable paper, relative to the value and culture of Mediterranean Wheat by F. D. C. Now my experience and observation lead me to differ from him in some respects. I regard it as earlier than most other varieties, especially when grown on heavy soil. I have known it to ripen more than a week earlier than the red Bald (so called among us) or the Canada flint, and think it less liable to the ravages of the weevil. I am aware that it does not yield as greatly as some other varieties, when we are fortunate enough to have them do well, but as a general thing I think it by far the safest for a crop. Three-fourths, if not nine-tenths of the wheat raised in this country is the Mediterranean variety.

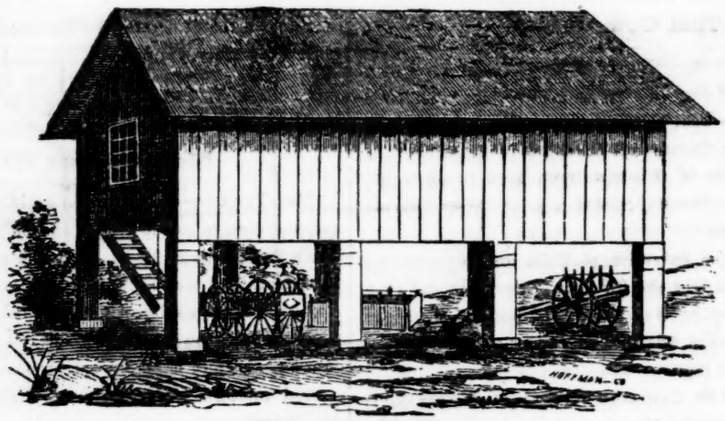
As to its value *now*, I view it as quite different from what it was when first grown here. I have the testimony of our millers as well as my own experience to sustain me in saying that this wheat sown on early soil, if cut before fully ripe, will amply repay the farmer with a quality of flour not surpassed in flavor by any in market, and will compare favorably with the best white varieties. I am confident this wheat yields a greater and better quality of flour than it did ten years ago, in this section at least. J. N. A. *Duchess County, N. Y.*

Experiment with Guano on Corn.

SIR—"A young farmer of Maryland," inquires in regard to applying guano to "clay land." I have tried it in clay land that had been in grass for five years. On one half the field, I plowed it in to the depth of about seven inches, and on the other half harrowed it in, and planted it all to corn, and staked off an equal number of hills from each part. It all came up equally well, but by the early part of summer there was a marked difference in the two parts of the field, which continued throughout the season; and upon husking, that which had been plowed in (and staked off upon planting,) produced nine bushels, while that which had been harrowed in, produced but five bushels, showing the advantage of plowing it in, even in heavy clay soil. The soil was a slate, and the amount used about two hundred lbs. to the acre. CHESTER CO., PA.

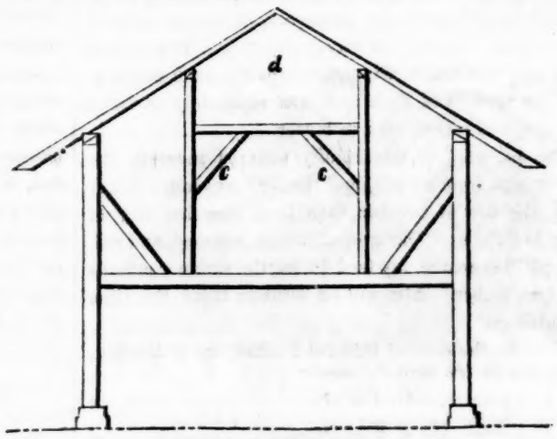
Our correspondent has our thanks for the above. It is just such facts that are wanted. We hope he will furnish further results of his experience and observation for our pages.

FINE APPLE.—Mr. E. R. BALL of Nassau, has presented us some seedling apples, which are in eating at this time. They are slightly acid, of good flavor, and worthy of preservation. Mr. B. proposes to propagate it, at least so far as to give it a fair trial under favorable circumstances.



Plan of a Granary.

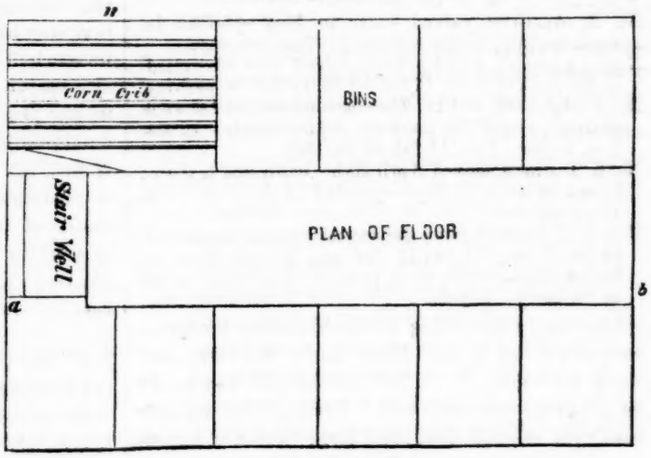
MESSRS. EDITORS—Some weeks have elapsed since I promised a reply to your request for a plan, &c., of a Granary and Wagon-shed; but circumstances beyond my control have prevented an earlier fulfillment of my promise. I now, however, wish to bring to the notice of farmers in general, what I esteem a very complete plan of one of the most important buildings in the farm establishment, and submit the following plan and elevation, together with the sketch, for your approval.



Elevation of End.

My granary was erected in the earlier days of my apprenticeship in agriculture, when I had not yet learned to appreciate the importance of keeping accurate accounts of all farm expenditures. I am therefore unable to furnish your correspondent with the expenses of erection; but I think it will come within what he proposes as his maximum limit of outlay

You will observe the posts are placed upon blocks of granite. These are sunk three feet in the ground, and rise fifteen inches above it; the former is to resist the action of frost; the latter to prevent decay in the foot of the post, from the effects of moisture from the earth, this having been determined as the necessary height.



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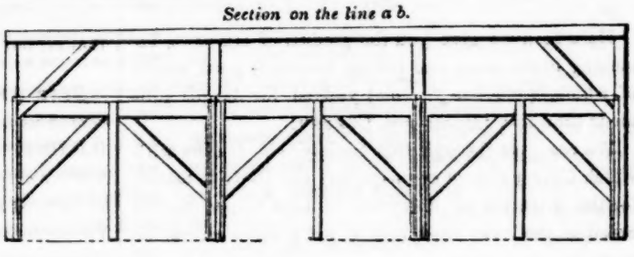


DIRECTIONS FOR BUILDING.

Building to stand north and south, for purposes of ventilation. One window in each end, 12 lights 9 by 12, under gallows girt. The space *d*, in elevation of end, to be floored for storage purposes. The braces *c*, *c*, to be dispensed with in the two middle bents.

The bins to be lined with half-inch stuff, jointed only. The bin posts should be plowed, that the bin boards on the hall may be taken out, or slide freely up and down, to lessen the labor of filling and taking out grain.

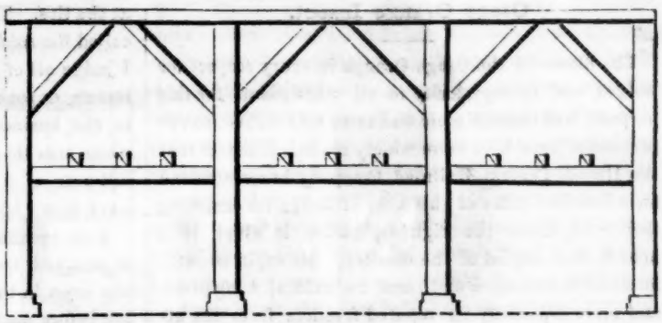
The floor timbers should have a slight camber on the upper edge, to prevent the floor from becoming concave by the bur-

then it may have to sustain. The building should be well framed, to enable it better to resist the force of the wind, to which it is very much exposed by its peculiar build.

The posts are to be provided with a belt of tin one foot below the inter-ties.

The siding of the corn crib at *n*, to be made of strips, 2¼ inches wide, and placed one inch apart, same as floor.

The corn crib should be placed in the south-west corner, if possible, or better perhaps, in that exposure which would best protect it from the prevailing storms of the district of country.



Elevation of Side.

The stairway is closed by a trap-door, the steps hung between the two first floor timbers, which are placed three feet apart for that purpose; hooks are secured to the end of each side strip, and caught into staples on the inside of the timbers. These serve as hinges; and the other end is sustained by a counter weight, when they can be let down or put up at pleasure, thus cutting off access to rats and mice. THOS. B. ARDEN. *Beverly, Put. Co., N. Y.*

Our New Publication.

THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS and Cultivator Almanac for 1855, containing Brief and Practical Suggestions for the Consideration of the Farmer and Horticulturist, embellished with ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY ENGRAVINGS, including Houses, Farm-Buildings, Implements, Domestic Animals, &c. 144 pp. duodecimo.

This work is now ready for circulation. We flatter ourselves that its typographical taste and mechanical execution have been seldom equalled and never excelled in publications of the kind. In regard to its contents it is sufficient to say that they have been prepared by Mr. JOHN J. THOMAS, of Macedon, N. Y., author of the "American Fruit Culturist," "Farm Implements," &c., &c., with the usual taste and ability which mark his works. His chapters on Country Dwellings, Improving and Planting Grounds, the Culture of Fruit, &c., embrace suggestions and directions that cannot fail to interest and profit every resident in the country, treating as they do of the chief means by which Rural Life is rendered attractive, and a Rural HOME comfortable and pleasant, and containing more information on all the accessories of a country dwelling, than any other publication with which we are acquainted has ever supplied, in so small a compass, and with such variety of illustration.

Our purposes in the publication of the ANNUAL REGISTER cannot be better expressed than in the following extract from its preface:

"It is intended to offer, in the present and succeeding issues, in a plain, simple and intelligible form, (rendered more so by ample illustrations,) the best information in relation to all the principal details of Modern Improved Farming, according to the most approved and established practice of the day, and to afford such hints on Rural Economy generally, as may enable *every farmer*, in some particulars at least, to effect important improvements. The construction of farm buildings generally, the breeding and management of domestic animals, the manufacture of manure, the cultivation of crops; the planting, training and culture of fruit trees; laying out door-yard grounds and ornamental planting, kitchen gardening, the construction and use of improved farm implements and machines; and, in short, every department of practical knowledge immediately connected with modern agriculture, will be presented in a condensed form, and in a practical manner, to the reader. It will be continued annually, with such improvements as experience shall suggest in each successive year, so that it may constitute an authentic ANNUAL REGISTER of the true progress of Rural Improvement."

CARROTS FOR MILK AND BUTTER.—It is only a few years since we had various recommendations for coloring butter to a deep golden yellow, by grinding up and mixing in the pulp of the orange carrot, but the best way that we found for giving the carrot color, was to pass these roots first through the cow. We have, with nothing more than an average decent cow, made seven pounds of butter per week, much resembling the best grass butter, in the depth of winter, besides using a small portion of the milk daily on the table. This was accomplished by the use of about a peck and a half of the white variety per day. We hope such of our readers as can, will experiment in the use of this root, the present winter, and let us know the result.

Osage Orange Insect.

The fitness of the Osage Orange in every respect for hedges, and its superiority to all other plants for this purpose, has become more and more established, as experiments have been more widely made. The fact that the Illinois Central Railroad Company has contracted for a hundred miles of this kind of hedge for enclosing their road, shows the high estimation in which it is held in that region of the country. Its rapid growth, formidable armature of thorns, its natural *hedginess*, and more especially its reputed freedom from the attacks of insects, have all combined to give it a high and increasing reputation. It was therefore, with some alarm, that we learned a few days since on a visit to the nursery of DELL & COLLINS of Waterloo, N. Y., that their young hedges had been attacked at the roots by a *white ant*, perforating the wood, and resulting, as they thought, in the death of the plant. The plants were set out last spring, in a very light and loose sandy soil, and about midsummer were observed to be dying. On examination, the ants were discovered perforating the roots, and were believed to be the cause of the disaster. No change was observed in their appearance, and only a decrease in numbers from this time till late in autumn at the time of our visit. We procured from H. COLLINS a vial containing a portion of the soil surrounding the roots of the plants, and filled with the insects in question, and immediately forwarded it to Prof. T. W. HARRIS, of Cambridge, Mass., who has furnished us with the following communication in relation to it. The importance of the subject, and the necessity of knowing this insect, its habits, and the best mode for its destruction, should it appear in other places, induce us to publish Dr. Harris's letter entire; and we hope the opinion may prove to be true, that the insect is only the *result* and not the *cause* of the death of the plant.

The bottle containing insects and samples of the roots of the Osage Orange, which you sent to me, came to hand yesterday. The insects, about fifty in number, with the exception of one individual, are *white ants*. The single specimen, referred to, is the larva or grub of one of those beetles that live in decayed wood. It was alive, and quite active when received, and measured a little more than one fifth of an inch in length. The *white ants* were apparently torpid, if not really dead. They vary slightly in size; but the largest are not more than three twentieths of an inch long. Two of these ants differ remarkably from the rest in the shape, proportion, and color of their head and jaws.

The prevailing color of their bodies, like that of the other specimens, is yellowish white, but the fore part of the head is brownish, and the jaws are nearly black. The head of these individuals is nearly one third the whole length of the body, and is of an oblong square shape; and the jaws are long, sharp-pointed, and cross at the ends like the blades of scissors. The other white ants have a round head of moderate size, and small curved jaws, which are only slightly brownish at the tips. The big-headed individuals are what are called the *soldiers*, and the others are the *laborers*. I judge all of them, though fully grown, to be young insects, or such as have not yet taken any active part in the business of the community. Among all the white ants that I have seen, including the celebrated hill-ants of Africa, the *adult laborers* and *soldiers* have brown heads and blackish jaws.

Your specimens resemble such as I have often seen in decayed trees, and in the bottoms of fence posts, and even in the sills of old houses; but, without having before me the winged males and females, I cannot determine whether they are of the same species. A gentleman in Dorchester lately sent me some adult white ants which had spoiled the bean-poles in his garden, had destroyed his gate-posts, and were attacking the wood-work of his house.

No instance has ever fallen under my observation of living plants or the living parts of plants being attacked by white ants. The Rev. Dr. Thomas S. Savage, who passed some years at Cape Palmas, in West Africa, and has carefully studied the habits of the white ants of that region, says that "shrubs or small trees are frequently seen growing up through the hills" of the white ant, called *Termes bellicosus;* that "such trees are never seen dead, consequently are not eaten by the insect." In Mr. Henry Smeathman's account of the white ants of Africa, the following remarks are found. "If a stake in a hedge has not taken root and vegetated, it becomes their business to destroy it. If it has a good sound bark round it, they will enter at the bottom, and eat all but the bark, which will remain, and exhibit the appearance of a solid stick. Sometimes, though seldom, the animals are known to attack living trees; but not, I apprehend, before symptoms of mortification have appeared at the roots; since it is evident that these insects are intended in the order of nature to hasten the dissolution of such trees and vegetables as have arrived at their greatest maturity and perfection, and which would, by a tedious decay, serve only to encumber the face of the earth."

From such observations as these, I conclude that the roots of the Osage Orange hedges to which you refer, were probably *dead* or *dying* before they were attacked by the white ants. In the samples of the roots, sent to me, the insects have preyed upon the wood, leaving the bark mostly entire. I beg leave to suggest that if the plants had been in a vigorous or healthy condition, had been properly set out, and had been kept well mulched, they would have survived the extreme drouth of the last summer, and have resisted the attacks of the white ants.

I have somewhere seen it stated that salt-water or brine was a preservation against attacks of white ants. It may be well to try the effect of it on some of your injured Osage Orange plants.

Yours respectfully,

THADDEUS WILLIAM HARRIS.

Lying rides upon debt's back; it is hard to find an empty bag stand upright.

Indian Corn—Increased Demand and Supply.

No country can ever rival the United States in the production of Indian corn. And large as is the crop of the whole States taken together, being, according to the census of 1840, as much as 377,531,875 bushels, and according to census of 1850, 592,071,104 bushels, there is good reason to think that, were there a demand and a market for it, thirty, fifty or even a hundred fold this quaniity could easily be raised. The demand, even though it should come from all parts of Europe, and be greatly increased at home, could readily be supplied. And as it costs a great deal less to produce a bushel of corn than a bushel of wheat, (estimates of the cost of production of both have been given in this paper,) we might supply the demands on such terms as to leave a handsomely remunerating profit in the hands of the producers.

We are persuaded that a greatly increased demand *might* be created if only one or two obstacles were taken out of the way. The prejudices against the use of maize as an article of food, which exist in most of the countries of Western Europe, and more especially in England, are not without reasonable foundation. Were it not for these prejudices and the causes which have originated them, the laboring population of these countries would gladly avail themselves of a kind of food cheaper and more nutritious than wheat, and of a kind of grain which holds out greater prospects of a *regular* supply than any other.

The peculiar flavor and taste of corn meal, especially of the yellow variety, is one cause of the European dislike to this cereal or prejudice against it. But this would soon be overcome, as it has been among the descendants of Europeans in this country, who now generally prefer the yellow corn, the meal of which has the strongest flavor.

The *great* cause of the dislike and prejudice which limit the European demand for this article is this:—corn-meal in a *good condition*, is hardly ever to be found. It is very generally musty, showing that injury has been sustained either in the crib, or in the granary, or vessel during transport. A considerable many samples which were at one time examined on Corn Exchange, would have been declared unfit for human food in America. This is the great reason why corn meal has not been more extensively introduced as an article of food in England and other countries of Europe, and why the demand for this staple article of American produce has not been much greater than it is.

One principal reason why corn and corn-meal suffer injury by heating or getting musty, is the fact that they naturally—that is without special pains in drying—contain a large proportion of water Ripe corn, it is said, contains about 37 per cent of water, while that in a condition fit for grinding should contain only from 12 to 14, so that 25 per cent. should be previously evaporated. This, it is very well known, is not done successfully in the crib, or before being taken to market: on the contrary, corn is often put up with so much moisture in the cobs and in the soft ears, that even the ripest ears can scarcely escape some injury. Indeed there is great temptation to prevent corn from getting much dried, for then there would be a shrinkage both in size and weight, and thus a loss, whether sold by measure or by weight. If corn is ground in this imperfectly dry condition, it is almost sure to heat and be injured on account of the moisture which it contains. Inasmuch then as we might sell to Europe much more of this article than we do, if this hindrance were taken out of the way, it must be evident that it is short-sighted policy indeed to send either corn or meal in a condition in which it is sure to become injured. Some who have been at pains to secure this article fresh and free from injury, have been so pleased with it in the form of cake, pudding and otherwise, as to express themselves as thoroughly persuaded that it would soon become a *favorite* article of diet, if it were only imported in an uninjured condition. Were it not for the slovenliness shown in the care of this crop, and the short-sighted policy to which we have referred, our foreign market for corn might have been much greater than what it now is. To have a greater demand and a more certain market, we must of course pursue an opposite course. A good article will be sure to find a market; whereas musty meal will always find a dull sale.

The course which would so obviously benefit ourselves, by creating a greater market for our produce, would also be of great benefit to others. Especially would we thus confer a benefit on the laboring population of England, by diminishing scarcity, high prices, and their consequent privations and sufferings.

In closing this article we would state that a Mr. Bulkley of Kalamazoo, Mich., has patented a kiln and process for kiln-drying corn-meal. Whether any meal or any corn so dried has ever been sent to Europe, we are not informed. We should be glad to hear form Mr. B. himself.

Wheat Prospects as to Prices.

Notwithstanding the abundant harvest in England and the north of Europe generally, the English do not expect to obtain their wheat and bread at low prices, nor to get along without the necessity of importing from other countries. Had their own harvest proved less bountiful, nothing could have saved them from famine prices. Old stocks were so completely worked up in all parts f the world, that it would have been impossible to obtain large supplies from any quarter, except at exorbitant rates. The war with Russia cuts them off from their usual supplies from the ports of the Black Sea and Azoff; and Holland and Belgium will more probably require supplies for themselves, than have any wheat or other grain to spare.

A recognition of these facts has led to a rise in prices at our latest advices. This advance is ascribed by the best English authorities, not to the effect of speculation and large purchases, but solely to the supplies falling short of the quantity needed for actual demands. The trade is consequently supposed to be in a sound position, and no prospect of any sudden reaction is en-

tertained. Notwithstanding an anxious desire on the part of the farmers to profit by the high rates current, they have not been able to bring forward sufficient to check the rise.

In such a state of the English wheat market, the following remarks from the leader in the Mark-Lane Express of Oct. 30, may be interesting to some readers:

"That we shall require Foreign supplies, notwithstanding the acknowledged abundance of the home-produce, cannot admit of doubt. Last year the imports of Wheat into the United Kingdom, amounted to 4,949,314 qrs, and during the six preceding years we have required 3,000,000 qrs. annually. At no previous period have old stocks been so completely exhausted as they now are; and making full allowance for the superiority of this year's produce, it may still be questioned whether we shall be able to manage with a smaller supply from abroad than we have been in the habit of consuming annually for seven years past. It becomes, therefore, a matter for serious consideration where this quantity is to be obtained. Russia has, till now, furnished a very large proportion of the entire imports into Great Britain; this resource is entirely swept away. America has been the next largest importing country. Can we depend upon our usual supply from thence? and what prices will it need to induce the Americans to part with what they themselves appear this season to want for their own use? We shall not attempt to answer these questions, but they must suggest themselves to all who reflect on the future.

Most fortunate is it that we have been blessed with a bountiful harvest; but, even with this advantage, we cannot reckon on low prices of food; indeed we consider the advance which has taken place as highly salutary, in as much as it will lead to economy in consumption.

Does Manuring Usually Pay?

That it does, when employed with tolerable good judgment, can be abundantly proved and established. Many, however, have great doubts and uncertainties about the matter; and hence never purchase a dollar's worth of any marketable manure, nor save nor manufacture what they might, without *much* trouble, at home. The aggregate produce of the country would be much greater, and also the prosperity of the farming community, could these doubts and uncertainties be removed. For these and other reasons it seems desirable to call the attention of the public to such facts as go to establish the important truth that *judicious* manuring will always pay,—always well remunerate the farmer for all the outlay, time or trouble expended in this way on his land.

In the columns of the *Times*, (London,) we find a statement of the results of some experiments, made by a distinguished agriculturist, on the application of manure to wheat. In the center of a 50 acre field, one acre was left without manure; all the rest of the field receiving 2 cwt. of Peruvian guano per acre in autumn, at the time the seed was sown. The produce of the acre undressed was tested against that of the adjoining one, which had received Peruvian guano, and the result was that one acre with guano yielded 32 bushels of 63 lbs. per bushel, while the acre without manure yielded 25½ bushels of 60 lbs. to the bushel. The difference in money value amounted to £2 : 12 : 7 or about $13, while the cost of 2 cwt. of guano in 1853 when applied was £1 or about $5. There was, in this case then, a profit of $8 from every acre to which the guano was applied, or $400 if the whole fifty acres had been manured. There was also a superior *quality* of wheat produced on the manured portion as shown by the weight per bushel, and this additional advantage also that the wheat on the manured portion was a week earlier in ripening than the other.

A second experiment is related which was made to test the value of nitrate of soda and common salt as a top dressing to wheat in spring. A whole field, save one acre in the center, was top dressed in April with 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda and 1 cwt. of salt per acre, given in two applications at the interval of two weeks. The result in this case was also extremely profitable One acre with nitrate of soda and salt yielded 42 bushels, worth £13 : 13; while the acre without manure yielded only 30 bushels, worth £9 : 15. The difference between the two acres tested was greater in this than in the former case. The difference in money value was nearly $15, while the 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda and the 1 cwt. of salt together cost only £1 or $5. The profit per acre in this case was, therefore, very nearly $10.

These experiments are not singular or beyond ordinary in their results. They only corroborate hundreds of others made both in this country and in Great Britain. But they are well entitled to attention as they may serve to fix upon many minds the impression that farmers possess the power of greatly increasing both the produce and the profit of their crops. Independently, indeed, of the consideration of profit, the results of the above experiments are interesting. Here are two substances the application of which, in certain known quantities, gives an increase, which may be stated, on an average, of nearly one fourth to the natural produce. Such an addition all over a country is equal to the food of one fourth of the population of that country. In England, it would make all the difference between plenty and scarcity, cheap bread and dear bread, a steady prosperity and a constant drain of gold for the wheat and bread-stuff of foreign countries.

Inquiries.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have a piece of meadow that has lain in grass about twelve years. The soil is a sandy loam—rather moist. I think of putting on about twenty loads of yard manure (half cord to the load) to the acre, and plow it in about six or seven inches deep, and plant with corn.

And now will it pay the expense of a coat of guano on the furrows harrowed in well, or can I apply it some other way to better advantage. How much is it profitable to put on, if I use any?

Will you or some of your numerous readers more familiar with the benefits and the expense of guano than I am, answer the above through "The Cultivator," and oblige an old FARMER. *Kent, Conn.*

The large vine at Hampton Court has upwards of 1600 bunches of grapes this season, and appears to be in excellent health.—*Gardener's Chronicle.*

The Poultry Yard.

THE POULTRY SHOW AT UTICA

A friend who was present at this exhibition, furnishes us the following notice:

The N. Y. State Poultry Show came off at Utica last week as advertised, at Mechanic's Hall, a fine room for the purpose. The show, taken as a whole, has probably not been surpassed by any previous show in this country.

The variety on exhibition was great—almost endless, and many of the specimens beautiful. Some of the largest contributors were D. S. Heffron of Utica, E. E. Platt of Albany, and H. Johnson of Patterson, N. J.

Geo. Anderson of Albany, Geo. Snyder of Rhinebeck, Mr. Hart of Clinton and Mr. Wright of Utica, each exhibited several coops.

John Giles, Esq. of Woodstock, Conn., exhibited five coops of most rare and beautiful Aquatic fowls; among them was the Cereopsis Goose, a great curiosity, and perhaps the only specimen in this country—a pair of Egyptian Geese, very peculiar and attractive, and also Rouen, Black Java and Aylesbury Ducks. Mr. Giles has recently returned from Europe with those and many other valuable and rare specimens of Aquatic and Gallinaceous fowls.

The large Asiatic fowls were predominant in the show, and certainly very creditably acquitted themselves, fully sustaining the reputation they have heretofore enjoyed. They would have done even more, had not the old birds, especially the males, appeared somewhat to disadvantage, not being in full plumage. Their name was legion, and their nomenclature, generally sensible, being Grey, Black, Buff, White or Dominique Shanghai, as the case might be. One coop, however, of fine Grey Shanghais, entered by T. B. Miner of Clinton, was prominently labelled "Brahma Pootra."

The Black Spanish were fine, though the committee found but one really pure bred bird of this variety, on which to bestow a premium. This was a cock said to have been obtained from John Giles, Esq.

White and Speckled Dorkings were fine. Gold and Silver Spangled, and Penciled Hamburghs, were prominent in the house. All the varieties of Poland fowls were on hand, and some of them, especially the Silver Spangled Poland, were very superior. In short all the varieties called for by the Premium list, and many others, were out, and in such character and plumage as to command the admiration of all who saw them: but, unfortunately for the finances and reputation of the society, the citizens of Utica manifested but very little interest in the show. The attendance was very small, and the receipts correspondingly so.

The committee of gentlemen to whom was committed the arduous task of deciding the comparative merits of all the different varieties of Gallinaceous and Aquatic fowls, had indeed, a laborious task. They were Francis Rotch, John Giles and Daniel Barker. A SPECTATOR.

We have received the Report of the awarding committee, from which it appears that of the fifty-six prizes awarded, 15 first, one 2d and two 3d prises, were given to D. S. Heffron, Utica—six 1st and seven 2d, to E. E. Platt, Albany—one 1st and four 2d, to Thomas Wright, Utica—one 1st, one 2d and one 3d, to G. W. Cummings, Rochester—two 1st to A. A. Hudson, Syracuse—one 2d, to Geo. Anderson, Albany—one 1st, to J. W. Herring, Marcellus—one 2d, to T. B. Miner, Clinton—one 1st and one 2d, to R. H. Van Rensselaer, Morris, for Speckled Dorkings—one 2d, to Israel French New-York Mills—one 1st, to J. F. Kettle, Utica—one 1st, to John Erwin, Utica—one 1st, to R. H. Avery, Wampsville—two 1st, to D. Burgess, Winfield—one 1st and one 2d, to O. S. Cumings, Trenton Falls—one 2d, to Oliver Wilson, Whitesboro—and to F. W. Collins, East Bloomfield, 1st, for Pigeons, and to Thomas Gould, Aurora, the 1st for Rabbits.

Appended to the Report is the following letter, which explains itself. It is a very common thing to hear complaints—sometimes loud—of injustice done them by awarding committees; but we do not remember before to have seen an instance where an exhibitor protested that he had received more than was his due.

UTICA, Dec. 1, 1854.

SIR—In connection with the report of the Judges of the late State Poultry Show, allow me to make a statement. As appears from the report, my birds have been unusually successful in the contest for premiums, sixteen out of twenty distinct varieties exhibited, being so honored. This was more than I expected, and more than I honestly think they deserved. And I am strongly of the opinion that, had they had more time, they would have come to a different conclusion in two or three cases. First, I think Geo. Anderson, of Albany, should have received the second premium on Buff Shanghae instead of myself. I suspected that the Clerk of the Committee had made a mistake in the entry, as my birds stood immediately over Anderson's, but he avers that he did not. In some respects, I think, Thomas Wright's Sumatra Games were better than mine, and should have been perfectly satisfied had they awarded my birds the second premium, instead of the first.

My Silver Spangled Hamburg fowls were awarded the first premium; and it is my impression that had they not stood in a dark place, where their defects could not well be discerned, they would have received no premium. So, had I been judge, my Silver Pencilled Hamburghs or Creoles would have received no premium; for, though their combs, earlobes, and forms were correct, there was some defect in markings. L. M. Tay-

lor had the best marked Creoles, but the comb of the cock was defective. I therefore, refuse all the premiums awarded on the above mentioned birds. D. S HEFFRON, *Ex-Pres. of the New-York State Poultry Society.*

After the reading of the Report of the Judges, the Society proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following Board was unanimously elected.

President—FRANCIS ROTCH, of Morris.

Vice-Presidents—C. W. GODDARD, Albany; F. W. COLLINS, East Bloomfield; A. A. HUDSON, Syracuse.

Cor. Sec'y—R. C. MCCORMICK, JR., Woodhaven, L. I.

Rec. Sec'y & Treas.—C. M. SCHOLEFIELD, Yorkville.

Board of Managers—D. S. Heffron, Utica; Sam'l T. Taberg, Dutchess; P. F. Peck, Yonkers; R. C. McCormick, New-York; M. M Kimmey,, Cedar Hill; George St. George, York Mills; Thos. Gould, Aurora; G. Pitts, Honeoye; R. H. Van Rensselaer, Morris; Mr. Haight, Rochester; G. Mallons, Macedon; S. V. C. Van Rensselaer, Claverack; L. M. Taylor, Utica; N. S. Smith, Buffalo; G. W. Herring, Marcellus; Geo. Anderson, Albany; E. Giles, Sauquoit; M. Vassar, Po'keepsie; Elihu Burritt, Burdett; Leroy Mowry, Greenwich.

It was also recommended that the Board of Managers appoint the next Exhibition of the Society at Albany, at the same time that the Winter Show of the State Agricultural Society is held, in February, 1856.

NEW METHOD OF DECAPITATING POULTRY.

Take a turkey for instance, and wrap him up whole length in a piece of coarse cloth, leaving the head out, and lash him fore and aft with a cord sufficiently strong. Then decapitate with a sharp hatchet on a firm block. By these means the executioner is spared from witnessing those fearful gyrations so alarming to the beholder, when a turkey dies, and he also follows the advice of Isaac Walton, the affectionate angler, on baiting the hook, "treats them as though he loved them." Our thanksgiving turkey relished better than usual, in consequence of this discovery. S. B. S.

GAPES IN CHICKENS.

I have never known a case of it among my poultry, and I think your cosrespondent's remarks on the subject, in the November number, are correct. S. B. S.

CURE FOR GAPES.—We have a Shanghae rooster about 15 months old. About a month ago, he got the gapes—the first grown fowl I ever knew to have that disease. He continued to get worse, until we feared he would die. We then applied spirits of turpentine, as recommended in a late no. of "The Cultivator," and it cured him entirely. C. DINGMAN. *Minden.*

DISEASES IN POULTRY.

Various remedies have been offered for different diseases in poultry. I have one remedy in all cases, for all ages and all kinds. Whenever any one of them seems out of sorts, I administer water with a teaspoon, as hot as I think they can bear it, at two or three different times; also bathe the feet in it, and keep them without food and away from the cold, till they begin to brighten up, which they generally do in the course of a day. Some die. I treated a fine young turkey in this way which was nearly killed by an accidental blow on the top of the head. Fowls affected with indigestion,(indicated most readily by frequent attempts to swallow) should be attended to as soon as practicable.

I am not advocating hydropathy, but I think many human diseases could be cured in the same manner. S. B. S.

The Housewife.

APPLE CUSTARD PIES.

To one pound of apple, add one pound of sugar and one-fourth pound of butter. Simmer them together, and let them cool. Then add ten eggs, well-beaten, and one quart of sweet cream. Nutmeg and spice to your taste. Mix well and bake with one crust. A YOUNG HOUSEKEEPER.

ELASTIC VARNISH POR LEATHER.

We find the following recipe for such a varnish, going the rounds of the papers. So little dependence can be safely put in these flying prescriptions, recipes, &c, that it would confer a favor on many of your readers to know on *good authority* something in relation to this preparation. It is as follows:—"Take two parts by weight of resin and one of India rubber, and heat them in an earthenware vessel till they are fused together; stir together after this till they are quite cold, or add a little boiled linseed oil when nearly cold."

Now as this, or something like this, would be very likely to be an excellent elastic and water-proof application, to leather, it would be a favor and benefit conferred on the public if any one acquainted with this or a similar application,would say what they *know* certainly of its merits, best modes of application, whether sticky when put on harness, &c. &c. O

HOW TO SALT PORK SO AS TO KEEP.

Every experienced farmer is familiar with the following, but it may be useful to beginners:

Cut your pork up, the strips clear of ribs six inches wide; let it lay over night. Next day salt as follows: sprinkle the bottom of the barrel well with coarse salt —Turk's island or some other good kind; put in a layer of meat set on edge, packed as close as possible;—then another layer of salt, and so on till your meat is all in the barrel. Then I take common eastern, or lake salt as it is called, and make a brine as strong as it can be made; let it stand two or three days and then pour off the clean brine, and then put it on the meat, and it is safe. Keep it under brine by placing a weight on it.

One bushel of coarse salt is enough for the side meat f six good hogs.

After trying almost all methods to keep smoked hams without success, I have the last four years kept them with success by the following plan.

Put a layer of fine dry charcoal, then a layer of hams, then charcoal, and so on. No bugs or skippers or mould ever touch them.

Keep in a dry and cool place, and they will keep perfectly sweet, if in good order when put down.—*Ex.*

SLIPPERY WALKS.—Dash water on them, and then throw on an inch or two of snow, and they will cease to be slippery.

The Deutzia Scabra.

This is a beautiful hardy flowering shrub, from Japan. Flowers, white, in May and June—is a free bloomer, and worthy a place in all shrubberies.

DOUBLE FLOWERS.

The London Horticultural Cabinet of 1847, as quoted in Hovey's Magazine, says that merely planting the fresh seeds of double flowers does not at all insure double flowers again, nor even increase the liability over any other seed similarly used. But that, to obtain them, the seed must be kept several years, or to the extreme verge of vitality, when their vegetating power or vital force has become nearly expended, and that this will result in those imperfect or unnatural productions known as double flowers. In the words of the article alluded to,—

If, after having gathered the seeds of Malcomia annua, or Ten-weeks' stock, we sow them immediately afterwards, the greatest number of the seedlings will produce single flowers, whilst, on the contrary, if we preserve these same seeds for 3 or 4 years, and then sow them, we shall find double flowers upon nearly all the plants. To explain this phenomenon, we say, that in keeping a seed for several years, we fatigue it and weaken it. Then, when we place it in a suitable soil, we change its natural state, and from a wild plant make it a cultivated one. What proves our position is, that plants, in a wild state, shedding their seeds naturally, and sowing them as soon as they fall to the ground, yet in a long sucession of time scarcely ever produce plants with double flowers. We thiuk then, after what we have said, that whenever a gardener wishes to obtain double flowers, he ought not to sow the seeds till after having kept them for as long a time as possible. This practice ought to be observed with all plants that we wish should produce double flowers, for all varieties of the Brompton stocks, Ten-week stocks, and others of the same kind, there is no doubt that to flower them well they should be sown in autumn in well-worked soil, taken up when the cold weather comes and kept under a frame during the winter. In the spring they may be planted out again, when they will flower magnificently, and yield an abundant harvest of seeds. If you have not a frame at your disposal, you may obtain the same result, by sowing the seeds at the end of February, under a south wall, for example. The principles that we have admitted above are just as applicable to melons and all plants of that family. We admit, like many other observers, that melon plants obtained from seeds the preceding year ought to produce, and do produce, really vigorous shoots, with much foliage; but very few fruitful flowers appear on such plants; whilst, on the other hand, when we sow old seeds, we obtain an abundance of very large fruit. In fact, in all varieties of the melon the seeds should always be kept from three to eight years, before being sown, if we would obtain fine fruit, and plenty of it.

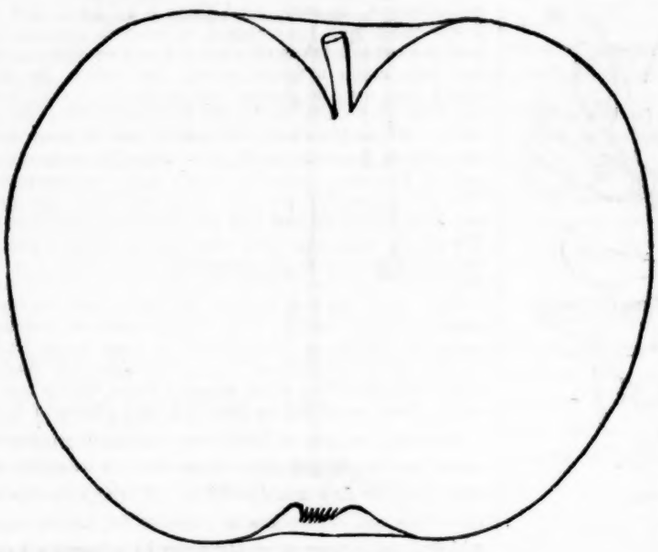
Can any of our skillful and observant gardeners vouch for the truth of this statement? It would be an easy thing to give it a fair trial. If true with regard to melons and cucumbers, it ought to be known more widely, and it may be easily proved by trying the experiment *with a few repetitions* with old and new seed, planted in equal quantities and under similar circumstances in all respects.

Fair and Productive Apples.

The McLellan.—Every day, almost, brings up some new variety of apple, highly recommended for its good qualities. On examination, we usually find these new sorts overrated, and that at best, they are a little, perhaps a very little below the point entitling them to cultivation. They are *almost* worthy of attention. Up to this "*point of decided value*," although there are very many candidates, few ever reach; like the many thousand men now living who are looking towards the Presidency, but very few get there—(although we must admit that in the *latter* instance, unlike the former, the best rarely get the highest.)

The character of our seasons and the success of the apple crop, seem to point towards a still further reduction in the list of those worthy of general adoption. A large portion of such as in flavor would be entitled to the term "very good," if not "best," are becoming either unproductive, or very scabby. This is enough to spoil the reputation of any fruit, no matter what may be its excellence in quality. Whenever, therefore, a new variety is brought forward, the first question, after inquiring its quality, should be, "Is it fair and productive through all seasons?"

Among those varieties which answer this question in the affirmative, are the Seps of Wine, Duchess of Oldenburgh, Porter, Lowell, Baldwin, Rhode Island Greening, Talman Sweeting, Roxbury Russet, Peck's Pleasant, Fall Orange, and a few others, some of which although not of the highest quality, yet are so fair and productive as to stand high on the list for real value. The McLellan, so far as we can learn, will probably come in the same list. This variety was first described in the Horticulturist in 1847, about which time we received specimens from Connecticut, its native locali-



The McLellan Apple.

ty, through the hands of CHARLES DOWNING, and had an opportunity of testing its quality. H. S. RAMSDELL, of Thompson, Ct., who first brought it into notice, says (according to the Horticulturist,) that it is as good a bearer as the Rhode Island Greening and Roxbury Russet, and that it gives crops of fine fruit when the usual apple crop is exceedingly small. He also states that it has borne good crops when these two celebrated sorts have failed. The tree is a moderate grower.

The following description was prepared from the specimens before us; Rather large, nearly round, faintly inclining to oblong; skin smooth, very handsomely colored with short broken stripes, and finely mottled, with a bright pure red, on a yellow ground, stalk one half to three fourths of an inch long, in a moderately deep cavity; calyx in a moderate wavy basin. Sometimes both cavity and basin are rather deep. Flesh nearly white, very tender, fine grained, with a very agreeable, slightly sub-acid, but not very rich flavor. Season, first half of winter.

Accuracy and Guess-Work in Draining.

In order that the fine and delicate net-work of fibres which constitute the smaller roots of every plant, may extend freely through the soil, and be fed liberally with the nourishment they need, the soil must be mellow and porous, and moderately moist. If the ground is hard, they cannot easily penetrate it; if too dry, they cannot get nourishment from it; and if soaked with water, they can no more grow than a hill of corn planted in the bottom of a pond.

Now, it may seem paradoxical to assert that the best way to prevent land from becoming too dry, *is to drain it;* yet such is the fact. A soil that is deluged in spring, has the particles which the frost of winter has crumbled, packed together again like a bed of mortar. It thus loses its sponge-like character, and cannot hold the water which fills it. It dries and hardens like a brick as the hot weather approaches. It can neither retain a useful amount of moisture, nor allow the fine rootlets to penetrate its hardened mass. It has become, in short, every way unfitted for the sustenance and growth of crops.

What a striking contrast there is in the two ways by which land becomes dry, whether by the slow process of spontaneous drying, or by the rapid artificial mode through tubular tiles. In the former case, the thousands of barrels of *surplus* water which fill a single acre of soil, must ooze drop by drop across the whole breadth of the field before it can escape at the lower side, or be gradually dried up by the almost impereeptible process of spontaneous evaporation, during the weeks of warm weather that follow the rains of spring. But on a well drained field, the escaping water sweeps rapidly from one side of the field to the other, through the smooth tubes of evenly laid tile, and the whole process is accomplished within a few hours.

These advantages are fully known to some of our best farmers, and is demonstrated in their practice, and we need not dwell longer upon them. But there is one part of the process of draining, that has been performed very much at hap-hazard, even by the most skillful managers. We mean here the total want of calculation, as to the *amount* of water to be conveyed off through the proposed ditch, and consequently an entire absence of any accurate knowledge as to the *size* of the tubular tile required. It is our purpose at the present moment to point out how this calculation can be easily performed, so that every operator may determine with much certainty beforehand, whether his pipes will be likely to be nearly empty on the one hand, or be insufficient to carry off all the water, on the other.

The first question is, how shall we know how much water a given drain is expected to carry. This may be determined if we know the circumstances. If, for example, no more water occupies the soil than that which falls upon it, we may assume that not over two inches in depth will at any time constitute the surplus. Few rains or snow-meltings ever amount to this depth; and as a part is needed on the land, this will be a safe estimate for extreme cases. Now, two inches of rain would be about 700 hogsheads per acre, which ought to be discharged at furthest in 48 hours of time. On a square ten-acre lot, with drains 33 feet apart, each drain would therefore be required to carry off half of this amount of water—that is, from a strip of land two rods wide and forty rods long. This would be about 175 hogsheads in 24 hours. The size of the pipe required must depend greatly on the *slope* of the field; and to determine this under all the varying circumstances the following general rule will be found of much value:—

Let L, represent the tube of the drain, in the annexed figure, (Fig. 1.) The letter H may represent,

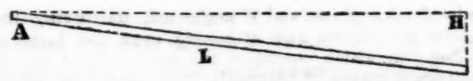


Fig. 1.

algebraically, the amount of descent in the drain, and D the diameter of the tube. It is required to find the quantity represented by Q which will be discharged in one second. The length and height being given in feet, and the diameter of the pipe in inches, the formula, expressing the rule, when the quantity is required in gallons, is simply as follows:

To make this rule intelligible to all, take the following example:

$$Q = 0.608 \sqrt{(D^5 \frac{H}{L})}$$

Let L = 80 rods or 1320 feet.
" H = 10 feet.
" D = 2 inches.
" Q = gallons.

Then $Q = 0.608 \sqrt{32 \times \frac{10}{1320}} = 0.29.$

This may be thus expressed in words:—Divide the height (10) by the length (1320) which gives $\frac{1}{132}$; multiply this quotient by the fifth power of the diameter (fifth power of 2 = 32); extract the square root of the product, which being multiplied by 0.608, will give 0.29, the number of gallons discharged in one second of time. This would be 17 gallons per minute, 1020 gallons per hour, or 24,480 gallons or 390 hogsheads in 24 hours, being twice as fast as would be required to carry off the 175 hogsheads already estimated in this article. In other words, land sloping 10 feet in 40 rods, with two-inch tubular tile, will afford drainage from the heaviest floodings, in twenty-four hours.

Where the slope is greater than this, as is often the case, the smallest tile now manufactured may be safely employed.

There are circumstances, however, affording exceptions to this estimate. When the water from rains pours down from the sides of higher land upon the surface of the part subjected to drainage, an additional allowance must be made, according to this increased amount. Springs will also modify the estimate.

Where main drains are employed to receive the discharge of several ordinary drains, the preceding rule will enable any one who has a knowledge of arithmetic, to determine with precision the size of tile needed, it being only necessary to ascertain previously the extent of surface, and the amount of descent.

It is obvious that to apply this rule with any degree of accuracy, a *level* must be used to find the descent Where this is considerable, the simple contrivance shown by Fig. 2 will answer every practical purpose, being merely a common square, placed in a slit in the top of a staff, brought to a level by means of the plumb line, and fastened by a screw. A cup of water attached to the rod, for the plumb to dip in, will prevent its being blown about by the wind, at the same time that it will move freely. Where greater accuracy is required, as in long and nearly level ditches, the "water level" may be used. It may be made of a lead tube about three feet long, bent up an inch or two at

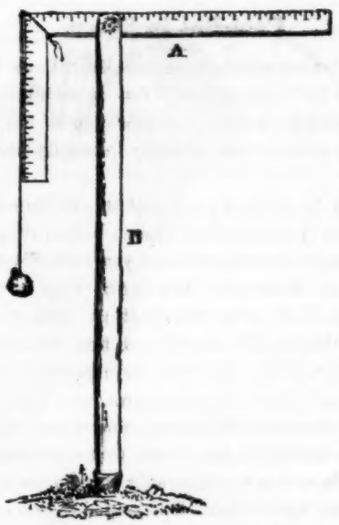


Fig. 2.

each end, and stiffened by fastening to a wooden bar, A, B (*Fig.* 3). Into each end is cemented, with

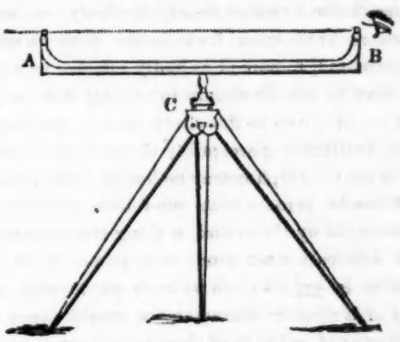


Fig 3.

sealing-wax, a small and thin phial with the bottom broken off, so that when the tube is filled with water it may rise freely into the phials. If the tube be now filled with water colored with cochineal or any dyestuff, and then placed upon the tripod, C, by looking across the two surfaces of liquid in the phials, an accurate level may be obtained. When not in use, a a cork is placed into each phial. "Sights" of equal

Fig. 4.

height, fastened to pieces of cork floating on the water, as shown in *Fig.* 4, give a more distinct line for the eye. The sights are formed of fine threads or hairs stretched across the square openings. To ascertain whether these threads are both of equal heights above the water, let a mark be made where they intersect some distant object; then reverse the instrument, or turn it end for end, and observe whether the threads cross the same mark. If they do, the instrument is correct; but if they do not, then one of the sights must be raised or lowered until it becomes so.

Sugar Consumed.—It is said there are 750,000 000 pounds of cane sugar, and 27,000,000 of maple sugar consumed every year by the people of the Union --besides molasses and honey.

Foot-Rot in Sheep.

The following article from the Mark Lane Express, contains a full description of this formidable and infectious malady, and may enable some of our younger readers to detect it and to apply promptly the proper remedy.

We copy the mode of treatment here recommended for the purpose of pointing out a much better, simpler, and cheaper mode, introduced some years since with great success, by HUMPHRY HOWLAND, Esq. of Aurora, Cayuga Co. N. Y. (who has kept an average of 2000 sheep for the last 30 years,) and first noticed in the Cultivator in 1846. We may here remark, that this remedy, had it been earlier known, would have saved him some thousands of dollars; and others who have been since induced to try it from that recommendation, assure us that it is incomparably superior to any other remedy they have tried. The second season of its application in the flock of H. Howland, it diminished the disease from thirty per cent to one per cent, or in other words, only one sheep was affected with it where thirty had been before. Subsequently it wholly eradicated the disease; while other flocks in the same neighborhood, untreated, remained as badly affected as ever.

The remedy consists simply in mixing flour sulphur with the salt given to the sheep, in a proportion just sufficient to discolor perceptibly the salt, or about one eightieth part. Sulphur may be had in New-York city at a wholesale price about one-fourth of that commonly charged by the pound, making the sulphur and labor of application not over two cents per head.

From some experiments we have made with other diseases of a similar character, we should much prefer a solution of chloride of lime, to any other application, where the local virulence of the disease is such as to render local treatment necessary, *in addition to the sulphur*, especially in case of fine and costly animals.

Flockmasters in Germany separate the diseases incidental to the foot of the sheep into two kinds—infectious and non-infectious; or better, into the virulent and the mild foot-rot; for although the common foot-rot is there considered by some as non-infectious, it is perhaps only comparatively so, being attended with little or no danger, and often disappearing without the application of a remedy, although through neglect it may degenerate into the virulent or infectious state. The following remarks relate, I think, to the disease alluded to by Mr. Watkins, and which he supposes to have been introduced into England of late years; in Germany, they trace its origin in that country to the introduction of the Merino sheep. It first shows itself in the limping gait of the animal, which gradually increases; generally commencing with one of the fore-feet, afterward both are affected, and at last this lameness extends to the hinder feet, with increasing bodily weakness.

The diseased foot is hot, and is often swollen round the hoof, which is more open or wider apart than on the sound foot, and the skin of the coronet is inflamed. An unpleasant smelling humor exudes, which thickens on exposure to the atmosphere, and not only inflames and destroys the immediately surrounding skin, but often penetrates between the horn of the hoof and the foot itself, the horny part partially separating from the flesh; and in the worst cases an entire separation of the hoof takes place, and if neglected, destroying the muscles and sinews, and attacking even the bones of the feet; in which condition the poor animal moves about on its knees, or helplessly lies down, the whole system gradually becomes poisoned, and although generally with unimpaired appetite, it wastes away until death releases it from suffering.

The worst form of this disease is not so often met with in the coarser Merino flocks, as in those where every care is taken in improving the fineness and quality of wool, by which means they are rendered more susceptible to the changes of temperature and weather. It is of a very infectious nature, if proper precaution be not taken, spreading through an entire flock in a month or two, and is often introduced by merely driving sound sheep over land where diseased sheep have been a short time previously.

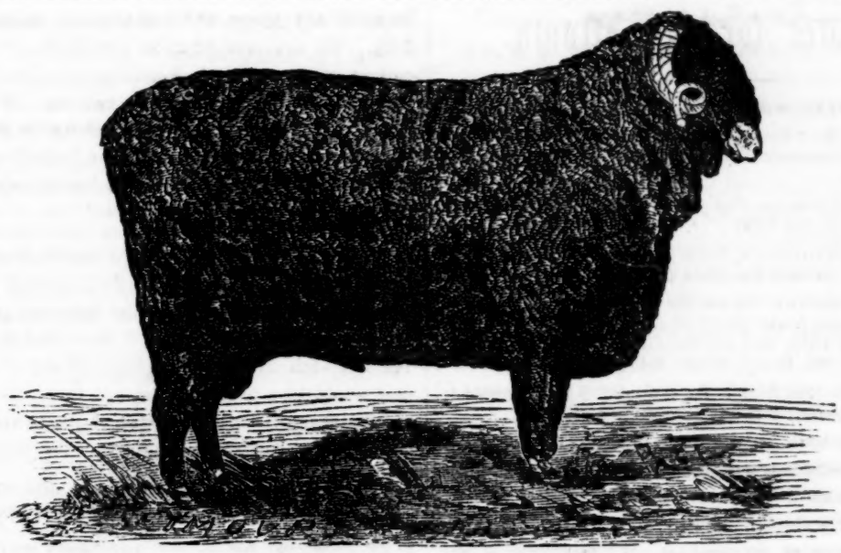
Precaution is the oldest and best remedy; but thorough cleanliness, wholesome food, and attention to the flock in wet and inclement weather, will not always keep the disease away, as long as there are so many channels for introducing it; should it exist in the neighborhood, the shepherd must keep a vigilant eye on his flock; a sheep observed to be lame must be immediately examined. If a small eruption or pimple appears on the skin between the hoofs (coronet), and the foot is unnaturally hot, the disease has made its appearance, and no time must be lost in applying a remedy; the diseased sheep must be kept by itself, and all the flock very carefully examined.

With a sheep knife remove the scab or pimple, clean out the wound to the sound flesh, wash it with salt and water, and then do it over with strong nitric acid. If the disease has advanced under the horn of the hoof, all the unsound flesh, together with the horn, must be carefully removed, the wound washed out with brine, and strong nitric acid applied; some recommend using sulphate of copper instead of brine, and butter of antimony in the place of nitric acid; but with the brine and acid a cure is generally effected in eight or nine days. Another remedy is, a concentrated solution of chloride of calcium dissolved in water; after the feet are well washed and cleansed, and all diseased parts removed, they are carefully painted over with the chloride, as far as the ankle-joint, using a small painter's brush for the purpose: and it is best to apply it also to those which have only heat in their feet. It is a safe and good remedy.

Permanent Pastures and Re-Seeding.

Many skillful graziers prefer old and permanent pastures to those which have been newly seeded, in consequence of the reputed superiority of the fine and soft grass of the former, to the coarse and harsh food from the latter. We have long since been convinced that the great reason of this difference is owing to the thin and scanty seeding which new grass lands commonly receive, and which infallibly causes a large and coarse growth, if the land possesses any fertility. We have ascertained by actual experiment that by tripling the usual quantity of seed, the grass is not only fine and agreeable to cattle, but that it is about doubled in quantity.

Permanent pastures, in this country, after remaining unbroken for many years, usually decline in the quantity of their product. This is not only the case on upland, but generally so on lowland, or on what is called *flats* or intervale, with the exception of such as is annually overflowed, and receives by this means a deposit of enriching mud, and often an accidental re-seeding. We have never known a single instance where unflood-



French Merino Buck, Washington.

Imported by J. C. Taintor, of Connecticut; owned by Wm. G. Wise, Fleming, Cayuga Co., N. Y.

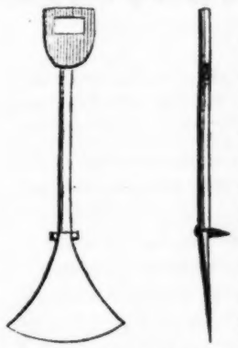
ed lands did not decrease in the amount of their crops after lying long in meadow or pasture.

In corroboration of these views, and for the purpose of furnishing what appears to be an excellent way of treating such lands as we have spoken of, we copy the following communication, which appeared in a late number of the New England Farmer:—

Mr. Editor—Feeling deeply interested in the improvement of agriculture, I esteem it a privilege, as well as a duty, to make known what I think to be an improvement, that others who are situated on like soils may profit by my experience. Corn and hay are the two most reliable crops in this region; and how to obtain the most of them with the least expense, is what we ought to study. A part of my land is too wet for common cultivation, but good for hay. I find it most profitable to turn it up once in four or five years. I have tried plowing in September and seeding down, and have succeeded well. For a number of years past I have practiced taking off one crop of corn, and then seeding down to grass, which I think is much more profitable. My method has been to turn up the land in the fall, laying it off in beds about two rods wide, and put the manure in compact heaps near enough to transport it by hand. So that I need no team but a horse to go upon it in the spring; by this means I can plant about as early as common land. As soon as the corn is hard enough to ripen on the stalk, I cut it up, carry it off and stook it and sow the land with grass seed immediately, always spreading on a small coat of compost manure. By this method I have never failed of getting a good crop of corn, and can get the land smooth and suitable for good mowing with little labor. By this management I think I can obtain as much corn from my low land as from my high, and keep it in good order for hay. Thomas Haskell. *Gloucester.*

The Crescent Hay-Knife.

Messrs. Editors—I enclose to you the plan and description of a useful hay knife, which I would thank you to insert in the Cultivator. After using for several years variously formed hay knives, and among the rest one in the form of the letter Y, and finding no one which fully pleased me, I contrived the one of which I send you a plan. It cuts free and easy, and is more efficient than any other which I have seen, and can readily be sharpened upon the grindstone. A hay knife in the form of the letter Y answers a good purpose if well sharpened; but by experience I found it almost impossible to sharpen such a knife with a grindstone so as to cut freely; and therefore discarded it in favor of the one of which I send you a description, and of which I have never seen a representation in any agricultural paper whatever. I have seen and used a great variety of hay knives, and have been in the habit of cutting hay myself almost every year for many years past, and must say that I have found nothing which can compare with this kind of knife.



Front view. *Side view.*

Description.—The whole length, 3 feet 1 inch; length of handle, 2 feet 2½ inches; length of the blade, 10½ inches; width of blade, 11 inches. The spur to be placed at bottom of the handle—length, 2½ inches. The blade should deflect from the line of the handle at an angle of 8 or 10 degrees, so as to keep the hands clear of the mow or stack in using it.

H. J. Canfield.

A Small Mistake.—The printer altered *oblate to ovate* in our late notice of the Druid Hill Peach, these two terms having diametically opposite meanings, and the Horticulturist, copying the notice perpetrated the blunder, although subsequently corrected in this paper. Those who, like us, are afraid of losing what little reputation they have for accuracy, do not like to be represented as committing even small blunders.

Notes for the Month.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—We are under obligations to Hon. WM. H. SEWARD, U. S. Senate, for Report of the Commissioner of Patents for 1853—Part II—Agriculture.

Col. B. P. JOHNSON, Sec'y, for Transactions N. Y S. Ag. Society for 1853.

C. VAN BENTHUYSEN, State Printer, for Transactions of the American Institute for 1853.

To some unknown friend, for copies of the Report of the Indiana State Board of Agriculture for the years 1852 and 1853, and also for Addresses of Gov. Wright and Rev. Dr. Berry, Prest. Asberry University.

And to numerous friends for copies of Ag. Addresses to which we shall refer as opportunity offers.

☞ We shall be greatly obliged if any of our friends in Congress, will send us a copy of De Bow's Census Report.

MODEL EWE.—Our thanks are due to J. THORNE, Esq, Washington, Duchess Co., for a fine model of one of his beautiful imported South Down Ewes.

YOUNG DUKE.—We are indebted to Messrs. MORRIS and BECAR for a beautiful plaster cast of "Young Duke," their South Down Ram, recently purchased from the flock of Mr. Jonas Webb. It is proper to add that we understand that Mr. Morris has recently purchased Mr. Becar's interest in their South Down importations, and that consequently they now belong to Mr. M. alone.

"KNOW NOTHING."—Our readers are aware that this new party entirely demolished all the old party organizations at the late election in Massachusetts. Among the new officers elected, we notice the name of our old friend SIMON BROWN, Esq., the present sound and capable editor of the N. E. Farmer as Lieut. Governor. If the Know Nothings never do a worse thing than to elect such men as Mr. B. to office, we shall have no occasion to find fault with them.

HOP CULTURE.—A correspondent in Oswego, wishes to know whether "the foreign demand and the home consumption of hops for *other purposes than brewing*, is likely to be such as to warrant their culture at this time." If our correspondent does not propose to dispose of his hops to the brewers, we advise him not to undertake their culture, as we know of no other demand for them which would be likely to make them a remunerating crop. We have no means of answering his questions as to the proportion of hops grown in this country, which are exported or used for other purposes than beer-making. It is however, we presume, small in both cases.

THE NORTHERN MUSCADINE GRAPE.—G. B. AVERY of New-Lebanon, writes us a long letter about our notice of this grape. We wish Mr. A. had put what he had to say in favor of this grape into such a shape that we could have transferred it to our columns without occupying too much space. He thinks the specimens sent us, obtained their foxy flavor from other grapes sent in the box with them, as he never before heard of any person who had tasted it, pronouncing it foxy. We are certainly, as he supposes, "ready to correct an error," and cheerfully give the Northern Muscadine the benefit of this opinion. We cannot, however, agree with him in ascribing to this grape, superior or even equal merit to the Isabella or Catawba. Its earliness will make it a favorite where other and superior sorts will not mature.

LARGE SQUASHES, &c.—Mr. JOHN MCKEE, Bristol, Vermont, writes us as follows:—"I raised this year from two winter squash seed, the following product—6 squashes—1st, 140 lbs.—2d, 128 lbs.—3d, 119 lbs.—4th, 107 lbs.—5th, 971 bs.—6th, 86 lbs. If any of your readers would like to make a trial of them, they can do so by writing to me. Also some of the celebrated Old Colony Sweet corn, and Mammoth water melon."

FARMERS SHOULD READ.—A new subscriber in Michigan, in remitting his subscription says—"You would think, to see my packages of papers as they come from the post office daily, that I had as much reading matter as I ought to find time to read, and manage a farm of 1200 acres. But not so. I find time daily to read all my papers, particularly those pertaining to agriculture, because they contain the very gist of what I want to know. No man can be an intelligent and successful farmer, without half a dozen of the best agricultural papers that can be selected."

TWO AND A HALF TONS OF WHEAT FROM AN ACRE.—The California papers state that the premium for the best crop of wheat at their late State Fair, was awarded to J. B. HILL of Salinas, Monterey. The crop consisted of 229 acres, the whole averaging *sixty* bushels per acre, and the largest yield from one acre, *eighty-two and a half bushels* of 60 lbs. each.

BEES.—C. M. Saxton, 152 Fulton St., New York, has recently published a new edition of that valuable work on managing the Honey Bee, by our old friend, JOHN M. WEEKS, of Vermont. It has been corrected, revised and enlarged, and is neatly got up by the publisher—price 50 cents. We have no doubt apiarians, large or small, will find it a useful assistant in the care of their hives and honey.

THE OHIO FARMER.—This is a large folio sheet published at Cleveland, by THOMAS BROWN, weekly, at $2.00. It has now been published nearly three years, and has been steadily growing more and more attractive, until it exhibits a taste and industry rarely to be met with in our weekly journals. The farmers of Ohio have sound and able representatives in this and the OHIO CULTIVATOR, at Columbus, semi-monthly, by Messrs. BATEHAM & HARRIS.

PLANS OF HOUSES.—A correspondent in Nova Scotia, sends us two plans for houses. We are sorry that we cannot agree with him as to their merits. The arrangement of No. 2 is similar to many to be found in almost every part of the country, while that of No. 1,

is objectionable on account of the want of a fire-place, or at least a chimney into which a stove-pipe could be carried, in the kitchen, and on account of the want of light in the kitchen, which can have but one small window, and that so situated as to be of but little use. No farm-house can be considered well-arranged that does not possess a commodious and well lighted kitchen.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—The attention of farmers will be attracted to the advertisement of "*Allen's Patent Mower*," in which its peculiar advantages are set forth—also to the "*Ditch Digger*," advertised by PRATT & BROS., of Canandaigua, a machine which promises to be of the highest importance to our agriculture.

A GOOD MOVE.—On the 5th inst. Mr. WENTWORTH of Ill. offered the following resolution in the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the Committee on Agriculture inquire into the expediency of establishing a National Agricultural School, upon the same principle with the National Naval and Military Schools, to have one scholar, educated at the public expense, from each congressional district, and to be established in connection with the Smithsonian Institution, so as the better to carry out the object of its founder.

Very good, so far, and we are greatly obliged to Mr. WENTWORTH; but will the resolution be passed, and if it is, will the committee on agriculture press the matter on the attention of Congress? Judging from the past, we fear not. But, remember farmers, there's a "good time coming," when your voices will be heard at Washington as well as at the several state capitals. Aside from its warlike tendency, we consider the Military Academy at West Point, the best educational institution in the United States. An Agricultural Academy, conducted with the same energy and thoroughness, would be of incalculable advantage to our country.

SOAKING FENCE POSTS.—In answer to an inquiry published sometime since, about saturating posts with a solution of blue vitriol, S. B. S. of Granville, Mass., writes us as follows:

"Not many weeks since I sent you a paragraph, cut from the Boston Post, relating to the use of blue vitriol, in solution, for preparing stakes and posts to prevent rot. My object in doing so was to recommend its adoption, because I have no doubt of the truth of all I communicated on the subject. You may rest assured that there is no humbug about it.

"Mr. Green, (Geo. B. Green, Windsor, Vt.) has tried the experiment, not only on posts, but also on spouts and shingles, and every species of wood that needs preservation. It is he, I suppose, to whom you have written, without receiving a reply.

"I may as well add that Mr. Green gives the preference, I think, to the other solution which I mentioned to you, and which I have now tried on white birch bean poles, two summers, the same being now very sound. If you want this recipe I suppose I can get permission to send it."

We shall be glad to receive the recipe alluded to.

COUCH GRASS.—This is one of the worst pests on a farm, as all our readers know who have had any experience with it. Mr. WM. SHULER of Montgomery county, informs us that he had a field entirely over-run with it. Late in the fall, he plowed the land to the depth of eight or nine inches, being careful to turn the furrows over compactly, so as thoroughly to bury all the roots. In preparing it for a crop in the spring, the land was plowed only about four inches deep, so as not to disturb the roots of the couch grass. The result was its almost entire destruction.

BROOKFIELD TOWN FAIR.—The annual exhibition of the Brookfield (Mad. Co.) Town Ag. Society, was held at Clarkville, on the 4th and 5th of Oct., and was eminently successful in the extent of the articles exhibited, and in the large attendance, estimated to amount on the last day, to from 6,000 to 8,000. The address was delivered by A. N. SHELDON, Esq., of Hamilton. The entries were as follows:—Horses, 73; Cattle 107; Sheep 32; Swine 7; Dairies 17; Poultry 36; Field and Root crops 19; Fruit 22; Domestic Manufactures 37; Tailoring, Millinery, &c. 7; Needle Work 30; Mechanics 11; Discretionary 54; Foreign 10. Premiums to the amount of over $250 were awarded. Pretty well for a Town Society.

THE GREAT WHEAT CROPS OF CALIFORNIA.—We gave last week, an account of the wheat crop to which was awarded the first prize at the late State Fair in California. Having since received the official report, we place on record the following statement in relation to the three prize crops. Is there any record of crops that equal them in amount produced per acre?

WHEAT.—After careful examination of the lots submitted, we award the first premium of $30 for the best 10 acres or more to J. Bryant Hill, of Monterey, his wheat having the largest yield, being an average of 60 bushels per acre on 229 acres; the largest yield being 82 1-2 bushels per acre. The wheat raised from Chili seed of fine quality.

The second premium of $25 we award to Messrs. Hutchinson & Green, of Yolo, they having presented 200 acres at an average yield of 52 1-2 bushels of 60 lbs. per bushel, while portions of crops in the same field averaged 66 2-3 bushels per acre. The wheat also of Chili seed and the grain of very superior quality.

The third premium of $20 to Mr. J. E. Johnson, of San Jose—this lot of wheat averaged 67 1-2 bushels on 10 acres.

MANURES.—A correspondent very much wishes to be made acquainted with the most approved method of using superphosphate of lime, and we shall be obliged to any of our readers for the desired information. Our correspondent very justly remarks—"I take it for granted that the knowledge and art of manuring lands, as a means of perfecting the science of agriculture, is he first, and the second, and the third requisite of good farming. All other knowledge is merely incidental, but this would seem to comprise the main, I had almost said the whole object of inquiry."

The writer will find the article to which he refers on page 406, Co. Gent. vol. 3, and in the Cult. for 1854, p. 239. We are publishing so much weekly on the subject of manures, that it will hardly answer to republish articles which have so recently appeared. Will not "Many Subscribers" become a contributor to our pages.

The Cultivator—The Country Gentleman—The Illustrated Register of Rural Affairs and Cultivator Almanac—Albany, N. Y., LUTHER TUCKER.

THE CULTIVATOR has now been published twenty years, and still holds its position as unsurpassed, in its class, for the ability and excellent taste and judgment with which it is conducted. Published monthly at 50 cents a year.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, weekly, a beautiful paper, and, besides all that we look for in an Agricultural Journal, embracing admirably conducted departments of news, and for fireside instruction and amusement, is published at $2 a year, with liberal discount to clubs.

THE REGISTER, 144 pages, with over 100 engravings, price 25 cents—sent by mail post-paid. This is intended as the first of a series.

The style in which Mr. Tucker gets up his publications is admirable.—*Vermont Chronicle.*

☞ We will send a copy of the Illustrated Annual Register, post-paid, to every newspaper which will copy the above.

OHIO FARMS FOR SALE.—Attention is invited to the advertisement of N. B. HOGG, Esq., of Newark, who advertises three valuable and desirably located farms for sale. Mr. HOGG we learn, finds it necessary to change his location in consequence of the loss of a brother who was on board the ill-fated Arctic, and will in the spring sell off the fine stock of horses, cattle, sheep and swine, which he has been so industriously collecting on his farms at Newark.

OHIO AG. COLLEGE.—An association has been organized and incorporated, as "the Ohio Ag. College," located at Oberlin, Lorain Co. The plan proposed is, to give Courses of Lectures during the Winter months, on all the several departments of Agricultural Science, each principal division being assigned to a different Lecturer, and systematically presented in the same manner, as Medical Science is taught in Medical Colleges.

The first term, we understand, is to commence on the 4th of Dec. and courses of lectures are to be delivered by Prof. Dascomb, on chemistry, in all its applications to soils, manures, &c—by Prof. Townshend on comparative anatomy, physiology, &c.—by Prof. Newberry, on Botany, Geology, &c., and by Prof. Fairchild on Natural Philosophy, Agricultural Mechanics, &c Terms for the course, (four lectures daily,) $40. The design is a good one, and we shall be glad to know that there are young farmers enough ready to avail themselves of its advantages to encourage the association to go on with their efforts to promote the cause of agricultural education.

PEAR STOCKS.

THE undersigned offers the following:
400,000 One year Seedling Pear Stocks, very fine.
100,000 One year Seedling Pear Stocks, extra fine and good,
100,000 Two year Seedling Pear Stocks, very strong and good.

The quantity of these stocks in this country and Europe at the present time, is very limited. Persons, therefore, requiring any, should make early application. The whole are remarkably clean, vigorous and good stocks. Prices reasonable.

JOHN SAUL.
Dec. 21—w3,5,7—m1t Washington City, D. C.

EVERGREEN TREES, &C.

THE undersigned offers to his friends and the public an extensive collection of Evergreens, including the popular as well as rarer kinds, Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, &c., all of finest quality, among which are the following:
500 African Cedars, (Cedrus Africana,) 6 to 12 inches.
2,000 Deodoras, (Cedrus deodora,) 4 to 18 inches.
20,000 Scotch Fir, 3 to 6 inches.
500,000 Silver Fir, (European,) 4 to 7 inches
1,000,090 Norway Spruce, 4 to 8 inches.
5,000 English Yews, 6 to 12 inches.
2,000 Irish Yews, 1 to 2 feet.
50,000 Larch, (European.) 4 to 6 inches.
20,000 Weeping Birch, 4 to 6 inches.
40,000 Currants, Victoria, Red and White Dutch, White and Red Grape, Black, Naples, &c.
50,000 Gooseberries, all the popular, standard kinds, as well as the new large show varieties.
20,000 Raspberries, Fastolff, Magnum Bonum, Red and White Antwerp.
5,000 strong Plums, leading varieties.

JOHN SAUL.
Dec. 21—w3,5,7—m1t Washington City, D. C.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO.

FLUSHING, N. Y.,

WILL supply 250,000 stocks of the following kinds:—Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Mahaleb, Angers Quince, Doucin and Paradise Apple. Norway Spruce and other evergreens. Also Seeds in quantity of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Angers Quince, Peach, Apricot, Catawba Grape, Yellow and Honey Locust, Osage Orange, Pines, Spruces, Magnolias, Larch, and other trees and shrubs, of which a priced Catalogue will be sent to applicants. Orders must be immediate or they cannot be reserved. A Wholesale General Catalogue for Nurseries will be sent to applicants.
Dec. 21—m1t*

THREE
Valuable and Highly Cultivated Farms
FOR SALE.

THE subscriber offers at private sale three most desirable Farms, situate in the vicinity of Newark, Licking County, Ohio, to-wit:—

1st. His CHERRY VALLEY FARM, on the old Columbus road, two miles west of Newark, containing two hundred acres, one hundred and forty of which are cleared. On this farm are two large young orchards, two large new frame houses, a smoke house, barn, new stable for fifty horses, sheds, chicken houses, hog pens, etc.; a large garden handsomely fenced in, and indeed every convenience and even luxury that can be desirable on a farm. This farm is in the highest state of cultivation, no labor or expense having been spared to render it a model farm in this, as in all other particulars.

2d. His RICHLAND FARM, also known as the Taylor or Fullerton Farm, situate on the road to Hebron and also on the Ohio Canal, two miles from Newark, and containing 139 acres, (100 of which are cleared.) There is a good log house and stable on this farm, which is in a high state of cultivation and cannot be surpassed for fertility.

3d. His ENGLISH FARM, situated on Ramp Creek on one of the roads to Hebron, four miles from Newark, and containing 133 acres, about 80 of which are cleared. On this farm are two small old frame houses, a large frame barn, a new saw-mill, and corn cracker and crusher. This farm is also in a highly cultivated state.

Also, a number of OUT LOTS, of every size, for sale.

Persons desirous of purchasing a good farm, in admirable order, will find it to their advantage to call on the subscriber at his house in Newark, Ohio, where he can be seen at all times.

Time will be given to the purchaser if desired, and possession on the first day of April, 1855. N. B. HOGG.
Nov. 23, 1854—w&m3m. Newark, Ohio.

Devon Cows,

HEIFERS, and Bull Calves—pure blood—for sale by
Feb. 1—m1y. B. V. FRENCH, Braintree, Mass.

Thomas Gould,

BREEDER OF DEVON CATTLE, Suffolk Swine, Madagascar or Lop-Eared Rabbits, and choice and fancy Poultry, Aurora, Cayuga county, N. Y Mar. 23—w&mtf

The Iowa Farmer,

PUBLISHED monthly, in Burlington, Iowa. Price One Dollar a year. Devoted to the advancement of West-

THE ILLUSTRATED

Annual Register of Rural Affairs

AND

CULTIVATOR ALMANAC for 1855,

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In one 12 mo. vol., 144 pp.,—price 25 cents.

THE SUBJECTS TREATED IN THIS VOLUME, embrace—

I. CALENDAR PAGES for the year 1855, calculated for the meridians of Boston, New-York, Baltimore and San Francisco.

II. COUNTRY DWELLINGS—including Designs for a Symmetrical Farm-House—an Italian Country House—a Cheap Farm-House—Working-men's Cottages, and Directions for Improving old Houses—with TEN ENGRAVINGS.

III. IMPROVING AND PLANTING GROUNDS—Flower Gardens—Geometric and Natural Planting—Form of Trees—Supports for Climbers—the whole illustrated with TWENTY-ONE ENGRAVINGS.

IV. THE CULTURE OF FRUIT—Preparation of the Soil—Draining—Distances and Laying out the Ground—Transplanting—Its Proper Season—After Management—Cultivation of the Soil—Pruning—Grafting—Budding—Diseases and Enemies of Fruits—List of the Best Sorts. This department is illustrated by FORTY FIGURES.

V FARM BUILDINGS—Plan of Barn and Stables—Of Piggery—Of Poultry House—Of Ashery and Smoke House—Construction of Cisterns,—with ELEVEN ILLUSTRATIONS.

VI. FARM IMPLEMENTS, &c.—Mowers and Reapers—Machines to Pulverize the Soil—Wind Mills—Stump Machines—Feeding Troughs—Painting Implements—with NINETEEN ILLUSTRATIONS.

VII. IMPROVEMENT IN ANIMALS—Cattle—Horses Sheep—Swine—Terms denoting External Parts of Animals—Heaves in Horses—with SEVENTEEN ILLUSTRATIONS.

VIII. FARM ECONOMY—Improved Farm Management—Rotation of Crops—Laying out Farms, with THREE ILLUSTRATIONS—How Young Farmers may Practice Economy—Plans Laid in Winter—Construction of Lightning Rods—Fruit Drying.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS—Embracing a great variety of valuable Hints and Suggestions for the Farmer, Gardener and Housekeeper.

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It will be seen from this abstract of the contents of the *Illustrated Annual Register*, that it has been prepared with special regard to the wants of our rural population, and we hazard little in saying that it will afford more valuable information on several of the subjects of which it treats, than has ever before been presented at so small a cost. The chapters on Country Dwellings—Improving and Planting Grounds, and the Culture of Fruit, have been prepared by Mr. J. J. THOMAS, with his usual taste and ability, expressly for this work, and are each well worth more than its cost.

This number of the Annual Register is intended as the first of a series, to be issued annually at or near the close of each year. Filled as they will be mainly with matter of permanent interest, they will form a series which no man, having a farm or garden, or hopes of future retirement to rural scenes, should be without.

Address orders for single copies, or applications for terms at wholesale, to LUTHER TUCKER,
Albany, N. Y.

☞ For nine 3 cent postage stamps, one copy will be sent by mail, post-paid, and four copies for $1.

ANDRE LE ROY'S NURSERIES

AT ANGERS, FRANCE.

ANDRE LE ROY begs to inform his numerous friends that he is now prepared to execute all orders for TREES, EVERGREENS, SHRUBS, STOCKS, &c. entrusted to his care. His trees, &c. are very fine this year, and his collection very complete. Orders should be sent at once so as to secure the different kinds. The best care will be given to all orders as usual. The Angers Quince Stocks have not succeeded well this year and are scarce and high. Orders should, as usual, be addressed to our agent in New-York, Mr. EDOUARD BOSSANGE, who will give all the information desired, and mail in application free of charges, a detailed copy of my catalogue with prices in dollars and cents.

Nov. 9—w1t—m2t.

EXCELSIOR HORSE POWER

and Threshing Machines.

THIS Portable Lever Four Horse Power is an improvement on Warren's Patent, (which we own,) and by an experience of more than three years, it proves to be the best and cheapest yet known. None have ever failed to give entire satisfaction in all respects. It is simple in construction, and easily understood by any operator. It may be used with one to four horses. We therefore offer it to the public as a most desirable machine for various purposes.

The Thresher is a superior Spike Machine suited for the Power. With these machines 200 bushels or more of dry Wheat are threshed in a day.

Weight of Power about 550 lbs.—Weight of Main Driving Wheel 300 lbs.—or altogether about 900 lbs. Weight of Thresher 200 lbs.

Price of Power and Pully Box, &c., $85.

Cost of Patent Riveted Stretch Leatheed Band, 3¼ inch wide, 40 feet long, $7.50.

Price of Threshers, No 1 and 2, $40 and $45.

Orders will be duly attended to.

☞ Terms cash on delivery in this city.

PLANT BROTHERS.
Gen'l Com. Merch'ts,
Oct. 26—w1tm2t. 75 Pine street, New York.

POULTRY FOR SALE.

THE subscriber who has had several years careful experience in breeding fowls, has a few choice pairs to sell, at reasonable prices, of the following varieties, viz: Grey, Black, Buff and White, Shanghai—Silver and Golden Poland, Black Spanish, Bolton Grey, or Silver Hamburg, Santa Anna Hen Feather Game, Java and African Bantams, and Superior African Geese. Also choice Black and Tan Terrier Dogs. E. E. PLATT.

Nov. 9. 1854—w& mtf. Albany.

Albany Agricultural Works,

Warehouse and Seed Store, 369 and 371 Broadway, Albany.

THE subscriber having purchased the stock in trade of the above works, is now prepared to furnish to order a full assortment of Farm Implements and Machines adapted to all sections of the country, both north and south, among which may be found—

"Emery's Patent Changeable Railroad Horse Powers."
Overshot Threshing Machines with Separators.
Mowing and Reaping Machines.
Grist-mills, Corn-shellers and Clover-hullers.
Circular and Cross-cut Saw-mills, adapted to the horse power, for cutting fire wood and fence stuff, with a full and complete assortment of FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS and FERTILIZERS. For further particulars, full Catalogue will be sent on application by mail.

RICH'D H. PEASE,
March 30—w& mtf Successor to Emery & Co

Superphosphate of Lime,

From the Eagle Chemical Works of Staten Island

THE subscriber begs leave to inform the Farmers and Gardeners who have left orders for the above manure, that he is now prepared to deliver the same either from the Works on Staten Island, or from the Depot in New-York. Other persons requiring supplies of this well known and valuable fertilizer, are requested to make application early as the demand for this season will be large.

ALFRED F. KEMP,
March 16—wtf No. 62 Beaver-street, New-York.

Suffolk Pigs,

OF pure blood, for sale by B. V. FRENCH,
Feb 1—m1y Braintree, Mass.

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MORE than ONE HUNDRED different kinds of Plows, and a large assortment of other Implements for the Farm, Plantation and Garden. R. L. ALLEN,
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A FULL assortment of all kinds cultivated in the United States—fresh and pure. R L ALLEN.
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PERUVIAN GUANO, Superphosphate of Lime, Bone-dust, Poudrette, Plaster of Paris, &c.
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IMPROVED SHORT-HORNS.

DURHAM Bull and Heifer Calves, descended from the herds of Mr. Bates and his nephew Mr. Bell, for sale.
HERMAN WENDELL, M. D.
Albany.
Nov. 23—wtf

Agricultural Books,

For sale at the office of the Country Gentleman.

A CARD.

DR. ROBERT L. WATERBURY, late of Fergusonville, has opened an office at 199 West Fourteenth St., New York (near Eighth Avenue) where his correspondents are requested to address him, and where his old professional friends on visiting the City may find him.
Dec. 21—w4t.

ALLEN'S PATENT MOWER.

THE MOST PERFECT MACHINE YET INVENTED.

THIS MACHINE was patented in 1852, and has been used by a large number of intelligent farmers for two seasons; and so superior has it proved itself over all others, that it is now greatly preferred wherever known.

This superiority consists:

1st. In perfectly cutting any kind of grass, whether fine or coarse, lodged or standing, and Salt Meadows as well as upland.

2d. Owing to the form of the knife and its rasp patent, it does not clog even in the finest grass.

3d. The gearing being hung on horizontal shafts and justly balanced, enables the mower to run perfectly true in a straight or curved line, and with one-third less draught than any other yet made. It also runs with much less noise, and with no jerking motion, in consequence of the knife being operated by a wheel instead of a crank. The knife can be taken off or put on in a moment, without the necessity of passing it through the arms of the driving wheel. This is a very great convenience, and obviates a serious objection to Mowing Machines.

4th. The superior gearing enables the knife to play with sufficient rapidity to do its work well, at a speed of not over two and a half to three miles per hour. Most other Mowers require the team to walk at the rate of four miles per hour, which is very distressing to the horses.

5th. A smaller wheel is attached to this Mower, by a spring axle, which runs parallel with the driving wheel. This enables the machine when thrown out of gear, to be driven over the field or along the road as readily as if hung on a pair of wagon-wheels.

6th. A reaping-board can be attached when required, thus making it a Reaper or Mower, as desired.

7th. This mower is made in the most perfect manner, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction.

Agents are solicited to sell the above Machine.

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Jan. 1—w1tm1t.

Ditch Diggers, Tile and Brick Machines,

Manufactured by PRATT & BROS., Canandaigua, N. Y.

THE Ditch Digger and Tile Machine were constructed to cheapen and extend Drainage. Ditches must be made cheaper and faster, and Tile must be made easily, simply and extensively. The Farmer feels it and agriculture demands it: and we beg leave to say to all interested, that these machines will accomplish the object.

We warrant our Ditch Digger to be capable of cutting from fifty to 150 rods of Ditch in a day, by the use of one man and two horses, not less than 2½ feet deep; and that this implement is made in a thorough and workmanlike manner.

We warrant our Tile Machine to be capable of making from tempered clay, 10 to 15,000 Tile or Brick in a day, by the use of two horses—grinding the mud and making the Tile or Brick at the same time and by the same operation—using steam or water power with equal facility.

This Tile Machine enables Brick makers to make Tile and Tile makers to make Brick, changing from one to the other in less than 5 minutes, and the cost of the Machine is no more than those in ordinary use, it being the simplest arrangement known. The quality of Brick made, is but a little inferior to pressed Brick.

Farmers, if you want Tile made cheap and near you, see yourselves that it is done. See to it that *some one* gets a machine and makes them. Farmers, if you want Ditches made quickly and cheaply, buy a Ditch Digger, or find a man that will do it. Farmers and others, if you want to see these machines at work, come when frost has disappeared and see them. We shall be ready, and take pleasure in showing them to you.

Brick makers, do you want to change your business for the better? Then make Tile and better Brick, and you will be the gainer, and agriculture accommodated. We have a large number of Tile Dies from which to select.

Dealers in Agricultural Implements, we will supply you on favorable terms. Persons wanting exclusive Patent privileges, we will negociate with you. All, wanting any further information, will please address PRATT & BROS
Dec. 21—w&mtf. Canandaigua, N. Y.